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ABSTRACT

This Kids Count data book details statewide trends in the well-being of Nevada's children. The statistical portrait is based on indicators of children's well-being in five areas: (1) health conditions and health care; (2) economic well-being; (3) education and achievement; (4) child and youth safety and welfare; and (5) juvenile justice. The data book begins with an overview and profile of the state's demographics, including data on minority populations. The remainder of the report provides specific information on the primary indicators, organized as follows: (1) definition of the indicator and what it measures; (2) a summary of current research on the indicator at hand; and (3) a map indicating rates, percentages, and/or numbers presented for each county. The specific indicators examined are: (1) low birth weight babies; (2) births to teens; (3) births to mothers lacking adequate prenatal care; (4) enrollment in public-health programs; (5) health issues, such as smoking and drug use; (6) percent of children living in poverty; (7) children in families headed by a single parent; (8) children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment; (9) child care availability; (10) child support enforcement; (11) school enrollment in public/private and home schools; (12) achievement tests and

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college entrance efforts; (13) teens not in school and not working; (14) children and youth in special education; (15) infant mortality; (16) child deaths; (17) teen violent deaths; (18) child abuse and neglect; (19) children and domestic violence; (20) children in substitute [foster] care; and (21) juvenile violent crime. The data book concludes with county data, notes and list of resources. (Contains references organized by indicator area.) (HTH)

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Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book 2003

County, Regional, and State Profiles of Child and Youth Well-Being in Nevada

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Nevada *KIDS COUNT* Data Book: 2003

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Overview of KIDS COUNT

WHAT is KIDS COUNT?

KIDS COUNT is a well-known, well-respected project of The Annie E. Casey Foundation. Its purpose is to track the well-being of children at both the national and the state levels. All 50 states have a KIDS COUNT project, allowing for state-by-state comparisons of child well-being indicators.

In Nevada, the primary activities of the KIDS COUNT project are to:

- collect, analyze, and distribute the best available data measuring the educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children and youth in Nevada;
- educate and inform decision-makers, citizens, service providers, providers of funding, and community partners regarding data, policy, and resource analysis;
- provide linkages with community efforts to reach decision-makers with information concerning relevant issues for children and youth.

WHAT is the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003*?

This report represents the ongoing effort of the Nevada KIDS COUNT project to provide a profile of the children and youth in our state.

WHAT is the layout of the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003?*

This year's *Data Book* is similar to past years' books. We provide indicators reflecting critical elements of child and youth well-being. The indicators are organized as follows:

- ***Nevada:*** Most recent state data for each indicator;
- ***Counties:*** Most recent county data where applicable;
- ***Significant Factors:*** Summaries of current research;
- ***Definition:*** A description of what the indicator is and what it measures;
- ***Map:*** Rates, percentages, and/or numbers presented for each county.

WHAT are the additions to the *Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003?*

New in the Health Conditions and Health-Care section are health-insurance coverage data from a CBER survey. Alcohol, tobacco, and drug-use data from the Youth Risk Behavior Surveys (YRBS) add to the section, as well as data on HIV/AIDS and STDs. Often-requested data on mental health are also presented.

Primary data on child care, obtained from two university surveys, are reported in the section on Economic Well-Being. Data on children in single-parent families, children living in families where no parent is in the labor force, and housing costs are also featured.

Education, always an important indicator for Nevada, again receives special attention. New are High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE), TerraNova, and SAT and ACT data by county and teens not in school and not working data from the 2000 Census.

The Juvenile Violent Crime section features data on referrals of children and youth into the Nevada juvenile justice system.

Overview of KIDS COUNT Continued

HOW were the data indicators selected?

Nevada KIDS COUNT collects data on 10 indicators identified by The Annie E. Casey Foundation. The Foundation believes: (1) "They reflect a wide range of factors affecting the well-being of children (such as health, adequacy of income, and educational attainment). (2) They reflect experiences across a range of developmental stages—from birth through early adulthood. (3) They permit legitimate comparisons because they are consistent across states and over time."[1]

The 10 indicators are:

- percent low-birthweight babies
- infant mortality rate
- child death rate
- rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide
- teen birth rate
- percent of teens who are high school dropouts
- percent of teens not attending school and not working
- percent of children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment
- percent of children in poverty
- percent of families with children headed by a single parent.

In recent years, Nevada KIDS COUNT added additional indicators based on recommendations by *Data Book* users. Practical considerations guided the selection process of the additional indicators, including whether the individual indicators were:

- relevant
- substantially researched
- regularly measured
- representative of selected segments of children and youth
- available at the county level
- verifiable with reliable data sources.

Additionally, Nevada KIDS COUNT hosted conferences in Las Vegas, Elko, and Winnemucca on the status of Nevada's children. The main event was unveiling the *Nevada KIDS Count Data Book: 2002*, followed by presentations on issues related to children's well-being and feedback discussion sessions on the *Data Book*. The KIDS COUNT Advisory Council and friends of KIDS COUNT, in an effort to improve the well-being of children, met for general discussion on data and how data influence programs. The discussion was organized into working groups. Each group identified major issues, priority areas, and new topics to consider for next year's book.

Fernando Serrano, a member of the Advisory Council, was instrumental in organizing the meetings in northern Nevada. KIDS COUNT also thanks the following individuals for their presentation on children's issues during the meetings: Assemblyman John Carpenter; Dr. Robert McCord, Director for Education, Policy Studies, Department of Educational Leadership, UNLV; Richard A. Wagner, Sixth Judicial District Court Judge; and Garth Winckler, President, Garth Winckler and Associates.

Overview of KIDS COUNT Continued

WHAT are the limitations of the data?

The atypical population distribution in Nevada counties with very small populations may create a serious "rare event" problem. Multiple-year averages stabilize and improve the usefulness of these data. Still, even when averaged, caution should be used when drawing conclusions from rates or percentages based on small numbers.

Because rates based on small denominators are likely to be statistically unreliable, rates were not calculated for counties with small denominators. The designation, NM = Not Meaningful, is noted in the maps; and, raw data are provided as applicable in the County Data section. Also, the sum of the county data may not equal the state total due to rounding and/or missing county-reference data.

Many of our data providers need time to compile and disseminate accurate information. Therefore, current-year data were sometimes not available when this report was produced.

This year's *Data Book* and last year's are easily accessed on-line at:

http://kidscount.unlv.edu

Where did Nevada improve?

Columns two and three in the adjacent table show that over the past year Nevada improved on eight indicators. The most-improved indicators were the Teen Violent Death Rate and the Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate.

Comparison of Child Well-Being Indicators in Nevada: 2002 and 2003 *Data Books*

Indicator	*Nevada 2002 Data Book*	*Nevada 2003 Data Book*	*Comparison*		*2002 National Data Book*
	Rate or Percent	*Rate or Percent*	*Improved*	*No Change*	*National Rate or Percent**
Percent low-birthweight babies	7.5% (1998-00)	7.5% (1999-01)		X	7.6% (1999)
Infant mortality rate	6.7 (1998-00)	6.2 (1999-01)	X		7.1 (1999)
Child death rate	24.0 (1998-00)	23.0 (1999-01)	X		24 (1999)
Births to mothers lacking adequate prenatal care	25.6% (2000)	24.4% (2001)	X		NA
Children in poverty	15.0% (1998)	13.5% (1999)	X		19.0% (1998-00)
Teen birth rate	35.7 (1998-00)	33.2 (1999-01)	X		29 (1999)
Teen violent death rate	64.5 (1998-00)	51.3 (1999-01)	X		53 (1999)
Dropout rate	6.1% (1999-00)	5.0% (2000-01)	X		10.0% (1998-00)
Juvenile violent crime arrest rate	273.8 (1998-00)	258.9 (1999-01)	X		NA

*Measures used to calculate the national rates or percentages may differ from those used in calculating the state's.

Source: Nevada KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2002, CBER, UNLV; *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2002*, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2002.

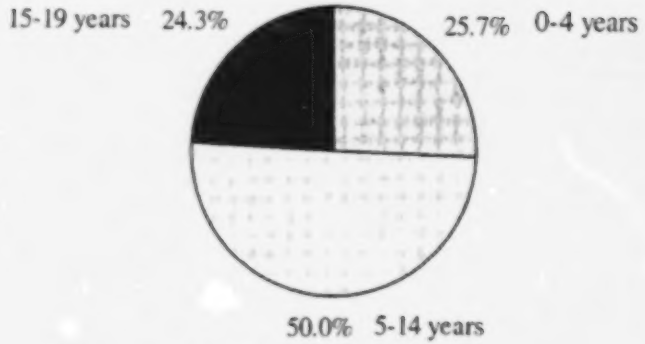
Nevada Demographics

Nevada Demographic Profile: 2001

Population	*Number/Percent*
State population	2,127,117
Clark County population	1,485,855
Clark County population as a percent of state population	69.9%
Washoe County population	353,271
Washoe County population as a percent of state population	16.6%
Rest of state population	287,991
Rest of state population as a percent of state population	13.5%
Adult (20 and older) population	1,532,229
Adult (20 and older) population as a percent of state population	72.0%
Child (19 and under) population	594,888
Child (19 and under) population as a percent of state population	28.0%

Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2003.

Percentage of Children and Youth in Nevada by Age: 2001



Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2003.

Projected Demographic Change of Children and Youth in Nevada by Age: 2001-2005

Age Groups	*2001*	*2005*	*Percent Change*
0-4 years old	153,003	176,857	15.6
5-14 years old	297,046	333,297	12.2
15-19 years old	144,838	167,140	15.4
ALL CHILDREN	594,888	677,294	13.9

Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2003.

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Nevada Demographics Continued

Demographics of Children and Youth in Nevada by Race/Ethnicity: 2001

Race/Ethnicity	*Less Than 18 Years of Age Number*	*Less Than 18 Years of Age Percent*	*Less Than 20 Years of Age Number*	*Less Than 20 Years of Age Percent*
White	293,671	54.8	326,765	55.0
Hispanic (all races)	159,391	29.7	175,731	29.5
Black (African American)	46,921	8.7	51,647	8.7
Asian and Pacific Islander	28,365	5.3	31,635	5.3
Native American	8,168	1.5	9,109	1.5
ALL CHILDREN	536,516	100.0	594,888	100.0

Note: The racial/ethnic categories were provided by the state demographer.
Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2003.

Nevada Households by Type: 2000

Category	*Number*
Family households	502,508
With own children under 18 years	245,234
Married-couple family	380,469
With own children under 18 years	172,858
Female householder, no husband present	80,819
With own children under 18 years	49,763
Male householder; no wife present	41,220
With own children under 18 years	22,613
Nonfamily households	249,469
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	751,977
AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE*	2.62
AVERAGE FAMILY SIZE*	3.14

*U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1, (Table DP-1), 2000.
Note: "A household includes all the persons who occupy a family unit." "A family consists of a householder and one of more other persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption." U.S. Census Bureau, Summary Tape File 3, Technical Documentation, Appendix B. Definitions of Subject Characteristics, available online at: <http://www.census.gov/td/append_b.html#HOUSEHOLD> as of February 27, 2003.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Nevada State Data Center Primary Profile, Summary File 3, (Tables P15, P13).

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http://kidscount.unlv.edu

Nevada Demographics Continued

Age Distribution of Children and Youth in Nevada by County: 2001

County	*Less Than 5 Years of Age*	*5-17* Years of Age*	*5-19* Years of Age*	*18-44 Years of Age*	*20-44 Years of Age*	*45-64 Years of Age*	*65 Years of Age and More*	*Less Than 18 Years of Age Percent*	*Less Than 20 Years of Age Percent*	*Total*
Carson City	3,580	9,184	10,488	17,809	16,505	12,975	7,882	24.8	27.4	51,429
Churchill County	1,921	5,252	6,022	9,108	8,339	5,752	2,895	28.8	31.9	24,928
Clark County	110,658	269,891	311,149	612,469	571,211	333,637	159,201	25.6	28.4	1,485,855
Douglas County	1,852	7,132	8,176	14,356	13,312	13,332	6,778	20.7	23.1	43,450
Elko County	3,547	10,295	11,965	19,881	18,211	10,215	2,729	29.7	33.2	46,668
Esmeralda County	35	157	186	348	319	322	176	18.4	21.2	1,038
Eureka County	99	320	352	509	476	390	187	27.8	30.0	1,503
Humboldt County	1,429	3,383	3,881	6,051	5,554	3,970	1,330	29.8	32.8	16,164
Lander County	506	1,381	1,542	2,010	1,849	1,447	417	32.8	35.6	5,761
Lincoln County	165	665	898	1,603	1,370	757	671	21.5	27.5	3,861
Lyon County	2,270	6,656	7,626	13,179	12,209	9,770	5,454	23.9	26.5	37,329
Mineral County	272	888	993	1,283	1,178	1,300	1,000	24.5	26.7	4,743
Nye County	1,806	5,718	6,653	10,113	9,178	9,644	7,103	21.9	24.6	34,384
Pershing County	371	1,194	1,410	2,039	1,823	1,266	600	28.6	32.6	5,470
Storey County	97	560	630	1,149	1,079	1,390	517	17.7	19.6	3,714
Washoe County	23,871	59,429	68,362	144,090	135,156	87,729	38,152	23.6	26.1	353,271
White Pine County	524	1,410	1,552	2,187	2,045	2,012	1,416	25.6	27.5	7,549
NEVADA**	153,003	383,513	441,884	858,186	799,814	495,908	236,507	25.2	28.0	2,127,117

* Two age ranges of data are provided since some of the child well-being indicators reflect children and youth through age 17, and others through age 19.
** The sum of the counties may not equal the state total due to missing or incomplete county-reference data.
Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2003.

Nevada Demographics Continued

Age and Racial/Ethnic Distribution of Nevada Children and Youth by County: 2001

County	Age		Age		Age		Age		Age		Age	
	<18	<20	<18	<20	<18	<20	<18	<20	<18	<20	<18	<20
	Caucasian		Hispanic		Black*		Asian		Native American		Total	
Carson City	8,985	9,930	3,021	3,295	105	118	281	317	371	408	12,764	14,068
Churchill County	5,354	5,933	911	1,012	157	171	291	311	461	516	7,173	7,943
Clark County	186,108	207,048	124,188	137,070	43,866	48,256	23,090	25,756	3,298	3,677	380,549	421,807
Douglas County	7,488	8,384	1,064	1,173	55	61	166	185	211	226	8,983	10,028
Elko County	9,372	10,462	3,571	4,018	100	115	99	119	701	797	13,843	15,512
Esmeralda County	142	165	37	41	0	0	0	2	11	14	191	220
Eureka County	353	382	59	62	0	0	0	2	4	5	418	451
Humboldt County	3,288	3,644	1,244	1,349	9	12	41	41	230	263	4,813	5,310
Lander County	1,334	1,452	467	503	0	4	6	7	77	83	1,887	2,049
Lincoln County	768	968	43	66	0	0	0	2	23	26	830	1,063
Lyon County	6,930	7,688	1,557	1,717	73	87	78	88	288	316	8,926	9,896
Mineral County	681	740	161	177	60	67	9	11	250	270	1,160	1,265
Nye County	5,994	6,763	1,106	1,205	115	129	107	126	201	236	7,523	8,459
Pershing County	1,050	1,195	429	489	9	10	8	7	69	80	1,565	1,781
Storey County	583	645	59	67	0	0	4	3	11	11	657	727
Washoe County	53,744	59,765	21,205	23,194	2,356	2,597	4,152	4,626	1,842	2,052	83,300	92,233
White Pine County	1,498	1,601	270	295	17	20	30	32	120	128	1,934	2,076
NEVADA**	293,671	326,765	159,391	175,731	46,922	51,647	28,362	31,635	8,168	9,109	536,516	594,888

*African American.

** The sum of the counties may not equal the state total due to rounding.

Source: Nevada State Demographer, estimates as of January 2003.

Health Conditions
and
Health Care

Low-Birthweight Babies

Nevada

Between 1999 and 2001, the Percent of Low-Birthweight Babies in Nevada was 7.5. Of the 90,269 babies born during this period, 6,737 weighed less than 5.5 pounds.

Counties

Among the 17 counties in Nevada, the Percent of Low-Birthweight Babies ranged from a low of 0.0 in Esmeralda and Storey counties to a high of 10.6 in Mineral County. Eight Nevada counties had a percentage of low-birthweight babies that was higher than the state rate of 7.5.

Significant Factors

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the low-birthweight rate increased slightly from 7.6 percent in 2000 to 7.7 percent in 2001.[1] The increase is attributed partly to the increase in the rate of multiple births.[2]

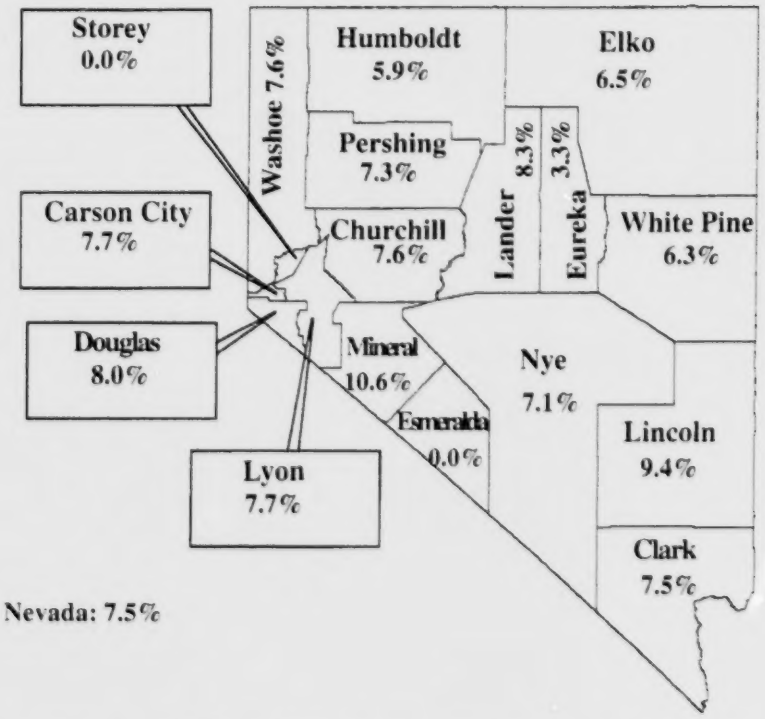
Low-birthweight babies may develop health problems at birth and may be at risk for long-term disabilities.[3] A recent study found that low-birthweight babies may have delays in motor and social development (not being able to crawl, speak, smile, or pick up small objects) up to four years of age.[4,5]

A March of Dimes' Fact Sheet lists some factors causing low-birthweight babies: (1) fetal defects resulting from genetic conditions or environmental factors and (2) a mother's medical problems, actions before and during pregnancy, socioeconomic factors such as low income, and exposure to stress of domestic violence.[6]

Definition

Low-Birthweight Babies are those weighing less than 2,500 grams (about 5.5 pounds) at birth. Low-birthweight data, reported by mother's county of residence rather than infant's place of birth, measure the percentage of live births in which babies weigh less than 2,500 grams.

Percent of Low-Birthweight Babies: 1999-2001



Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 1999-2001

Low-Birthweight Babies Continued

Nevada Births by Birthweight and Mother's Age: 2001

Mother's Age Group	*Normal Birthweight (Greater Than or Equal to 2,500g, Less Than or Equal to 8,000g)*		*Low Birthweight (Less Than 2,500g)*		*Total Births**
	Number	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
0-14	55	87.3	8	12.7	63
15-17	1,104	90.9	110	9.1	1,214
18-19	2,251	92.0	196	8.0	2,449
20-24	7,855	93.0	595	7.0	8,452
25-29	8,054	93.6	549	6.4	8,603
30-34	6,205	92.5	500	7.5	6,705
35-39	2,730	89.5	322	10.5	3,055
40-44	612	89.3	73	10.7	685
45+	53	74.6	18	25.4	71
NEVADA	28,919	92.4	2,371	7.6	31,297

Nevada Births by Birthweight and Mother's Race/Ethnicity: 2001

Mother's Race/Ethnicity	*Normal Birthweight (Greater Than or Equal to 2,500g, Less Than or Equal to 8,000g)*		*Low Birthweight (Less Than 2,500g)*		*Total Births**
	Number	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*
Black (African American)	2,083	87.2	306	12.8	2,389
Asian	1,862	91.7	169	8.3	2,031
White	14,117	92.5	1,146	7.5	15,264
Native American	373	93.5	26	6.5	399
Hispanic	10,141	93.6	688	6.4	10,831
Unknown	343	89.6	36	9.4	383
NEVADA	28,919	92.4	2,371	7.6**	31,297

* Totals do not sum due to the exclusion of small numbers of unknown birthweights.
**Varies slightly from percent calculated by CBER.
Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2001.

Teen Births

Nevada

Between 1999 and 2001, the average Teen Birth Rate in Nevada was 33.2 per 1,000 females ages 15 to 17. Of the racial/ethnic groups, Hispanics and blacks (African Americans) had the highest teen birth rates in Nevada 2001. The average unmarried teen birth rate for 1999 to 2001 was 26.9.[1]

Counties

The Teen Birth Rate ranged from a low of 0 births per 1,000 teens ages 15 to 17 in Eureka and Storey counties, to a high of 38.1 in Esmeralda County.

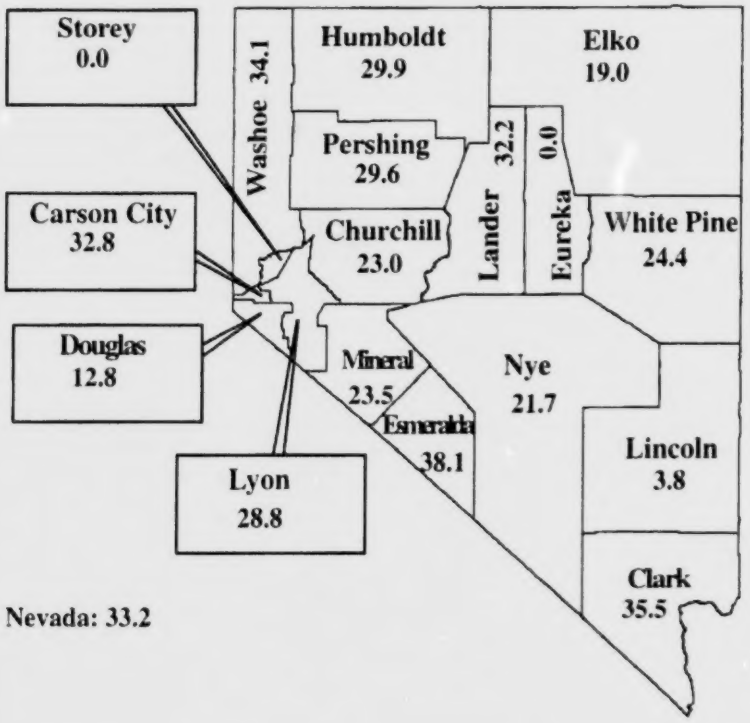
Significant Factors

Two recent studies, based on the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, reveal that a mother's values and beliefs and a teenager's religiousness may influence the daughter's sexual behavior. The first study's findings revealed that "maternal" factors may have more of an influence on daughters' than on sons' timing of first sex.[2] The "maternal" variables associated with later-reported first intercourse by teenage daughters were mother's strong disapproval of her daughter having sex; mother's satisfaction with her relationship with her daughter; and, mother's frequent talking with the parents of her daughter's friends. For males, none of the "maternal" variables were significant predictors of first sexual intercourse. The second study's findings showed that personal devotion, that is, frequency of prayer and the importance of religion, was positively associated with sexual responsibility, meaning fewer

Definition

The Teen Birth Rate is the number of births to teenage females between the ages of 15 and 17, per 1,000 females.

Average Teen Birth Rate: 1999-2001
(Per 1,000 females)



Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 1999-2001.

Teen Births Continued

sexual partners outside the romantic relationship.[3] Although neither study linked maternal variables and religiousness to teenage pregnancy, other studies have shown that early intercourse can lead to unwanted pregnancy.

Preliminary data from the National Center for Health Statistics reveal that the 2001 birth rate for the nation was 25.3 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 17. Since 1991, the national teen birth rate has continued to decline. See table at right.

Teens are most likely to have had their first sexual intercourse in the evening (6 pm to 10 pm) and in the night (10 pm to 7 am), 28 and 42 percents, respectively.[4] Over one-half of the teens experienced their first sexual intercourse in the family home.

Teen Birth Rate in Nevada by Race/Ethnicity: 2001

Race/Ethnicity	*Number of Births*	*Rate**
Hispanic	**569**	**50.3**
Black (African American)	**184**	**49.9**
Native American	**23**	**32.2**
Asian	**36**	**16.3**
White	**384**	**16.1**
Other	**18**	**-**
TOTAL	**1,214**	**29.1**

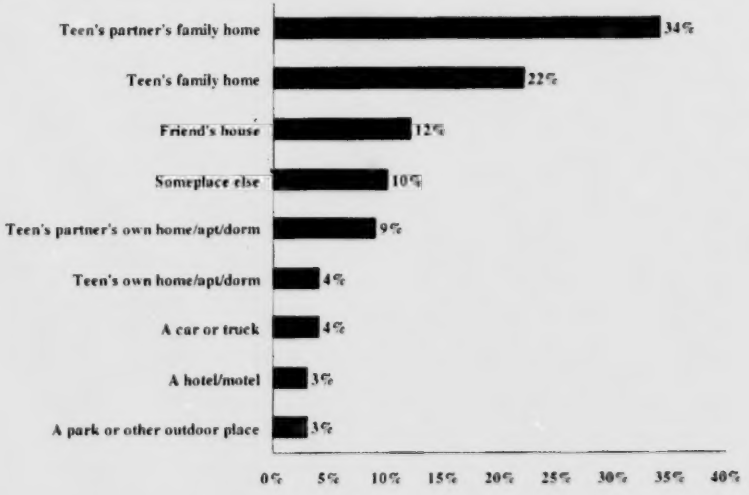
*Rates are per 1,000 age-specific female population and are adjusted for other/unknown race/ethnicity.
Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2001.

U.S. Teen Birth Rate by Age: 1991-2001 (Births per 1,000 females)

Ages	*1991*	*1995*	*1996*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*
15-19	62.1	56.8	54.4	52.3	51.1	49.6	48.5	45.9
15-17	38.7	36.0	33.8	32.1	30.4	28.7	27.4	25.3
18-19	94.4	89.1	86.0	83.6	82.0	80.3	79.2	75.8

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, cited in *Facts at a Glance*, Child Trends, Sept. 2002.

Where Teens Had First Sex as Self-Reported: 2000



Source: National Logitudinal Survey of Youth, 2000, cited in *Facts at a Glance*, Child Trends, Sept. 2002.

Births to Mothers Lacking Adequate Prenatal Care

Nevada

Approximately 24 percent of Nevada mothers in 2001 had delayed (care began in second or third trimester) or no prenatal care. The average number of prenatal visits for Nevada mothers who received prenatal care in 2001 was 11.1. On average, teens ages 15 to 17 had 8.8 visits. Of the racial/ethnic groups, whites were the most likely to have received prenatal care in the first trimester (85.5 percent), followed by Asians (78.2 percent), blacks (African Americans) (67.3 percent), Native Americans (71.6 percent), and Hispanics (62.6 percent).[1]

According to *National Vital Statistics Reports*, the District of Columbia had the highest percentage of mothers with late (beginning in the third trimester) or no prenatal care in 2001, followed by Nevada (7.9 and 7.4 percents, respectively).[2]

Significant Factors

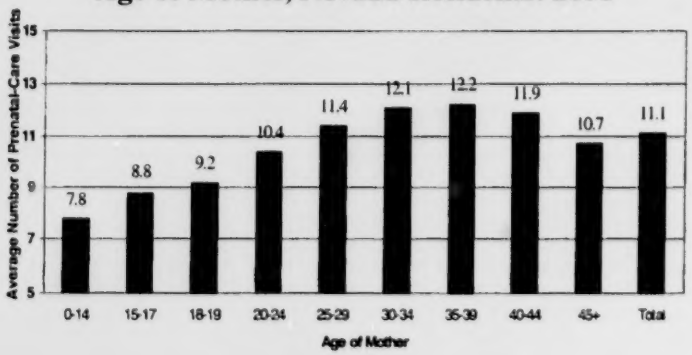
Prenatal care increases the likelihood that mothers will have healthy babies. The use of early prenatal care, care in the first trimester of pregnancy, rose from 76.3 percent in 1980 to 83.4 percent in 2001.[3]

Based on the analysis of 1989-1997 birth-certificate data from all the states and the District of Columbia, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identified reasons why mothers delay or forgo prenatal care. Common reasons were that the mothers did not know that they were pregnant, the mothers did not have enough money or insurance to pay for their medical visits, and the mothers were not able to get an appointment. The reasons varied by racial/ethnic group, age, and method of payment for prenatal care.[4]

Definition

Births to Mothers Lacking Adequate Prenatal Care is defined as the percentage of mothers beginning prenatal care in the second or third trimester of pregnancy or receiving no prenatal care at all. Data are reported by place of mother's residence, not place of infant's birth, and include only those women who gave birth, not all women who were pregnant.

Average Number of Prenatal-Care Visits by Age of Mother, Nevada Residents: 2001



Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2001.

Percentage of Nevada Mothers with Inadequate Prenatal Care: 2001

Number of Women with Delayed Prenatal Care	*Percent of Women with Delayed Prenatal Care*	*Number of Women with No Prenatal Care*	*Percent of Women with No Prenatal Care*
6,044	20.1	1,294	4.3

Note: Of the 31,297 live births to Nevada mothers in 2001, information regarding prenatal-care status is not available for 4.1 percent (1,285). Therefore, the figures presented are based on the number of live births in which prenatal-care status is available (30,012).
Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2001.

Public-Health Programs

Nevada

Nevada has two state-level programs which can assist children from low-income households who need health care.

Medicaid (CHAP)

The Medicaid program, authorized by the Social Security Act in 1965, is a health-insurance program for low-income individuals and families. Medicaid provides comprehensive, preventive coverage with some benefits designed specifically for children, including immunizations; well-child checkups; school physicals; and hearing, dental, and vision-screening services. In calendar year 2001, an estimated 67,521 children 20 years of age and younger received Medicaid, slightly up from the 54,430 children in 2000.[1]

Nevada Check Up (CHIP)

New federal funds became available after Congress enacted the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP, also called S-CHIP). The 1997 Nevada Legislature passed enabling legislation to authorize the development and implementation of Nevada Check Up, which began October 1, 1998.

Uninsured children, ages birth to 18, from families with incomes that are too high for Medicaid and too low to afford private insurance coverage, can be covered by Nevada Check Up. Families with income levels up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level may qualify. Program quarterly premiums, based on income and family size, range from $10, $25, or $50 per quarter (per family). Families have no co-payments or deductibles. As of January 7, 2003, children covered by Nevada Check Up numbered 25,523.

Number of Children Enrolled in Nevada Check Up by County and Age: 2003

County	*Less Than 1 Year*	*1 to 6 Years*	*7 to 13 Years*	*14 to 18 Years*	*Total Children*
Carson City	49	414	484	202	1,149
Churchill	12	125	130	63	330
Clark	566	6,371	6,819	2,393	16,149
Douglas	5	124	200	133	462
Elko	17	261	347	174	799
Esmeralda	0	3	8	2	13
Eureka	1	5	8	3	17
Humboldt	8	145	185	94	432
Lander	2	24	34	19	79
Lincoln	0	9	16	10	35
Lyon	15	241	375	227	858
Mineral	2	28	44	28	102
Nye	3	114	166	92	375
Pershing	1	25	41	31	98
Storey	0	0	3	5	8
Washoe	100	1,592	1,994	770	4,456
White Pine	1	33	72	55	161
NEVADA	782	9,514	10,926	4,301	25,523

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Nevada Check Up, available online at: <http://www.nevadacheckup.state.nv.us> as of January 7, 2003.

Public-Health Programs Continued

Number of Children Enrolled in Nevada Check Up by County and Race/Ethnicity: 2003

County	Native American	Black (African American)	Asian	Hispanic	White	Other	Total Children
Carson City	28	7	8	655	418	33	1,149
Churchill	61	2	5	89	159	14	330
Clark	120	1,537	510	9,099	4,150	733	16,149
Douglas	13	6	7	113	308	15	462
Elko	58	1	6	415	290	29	799
Esmeralda	0	0	0	13	0	0	13
Eureka	0	0	0	3	14	0	17
Humboldt	8	3	7	243	137	34	432
Lander	2	0	3	22	52	0	79
Lincoln	0	0	0	2	33	0	35
Lyon	64	9	8	277	475	25	858
Mineral	58	0	0	4	38	2	102
Nye	8	3	3	105	244	12	375
Pershing	11	1	0	57	22	7	98
Storey	0	0	0	0	8	0	8
Washoe	125	89	123	2,537	1,403	179	4,456
White Pine	20	0	0	20	110	11	161
NEVADA	576	1,658	680	13,654	7,861	1,094	25,523

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Nevada Check Up, available online at: <http://www.nevadacheckup.state.nv.us> as of January 7, 2002.

Enrollment in Nevada Check Up: 1998 to 2003

Date		Number
1998	December	2,832
1999	June	5,927
2000	December 1	14,245
2001	December 12	18,577
2002	January 7	22,850
2003	January 7	25,523

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, Nevada Check Up, and online data at: <http://www.nevadacheckup.state.nv.us> as of January 7, 2002.

Health Issues

Health

Mental and physical health are important to the development of a child. Staying in good health is often dependent upon having access to health-insurance coverage, which usually enables children to receive preventive care and see a doctor when needed. Health is also dependent upon eating a nutritious diet, exercising regularly, and avoiding drugs and cigarettes.

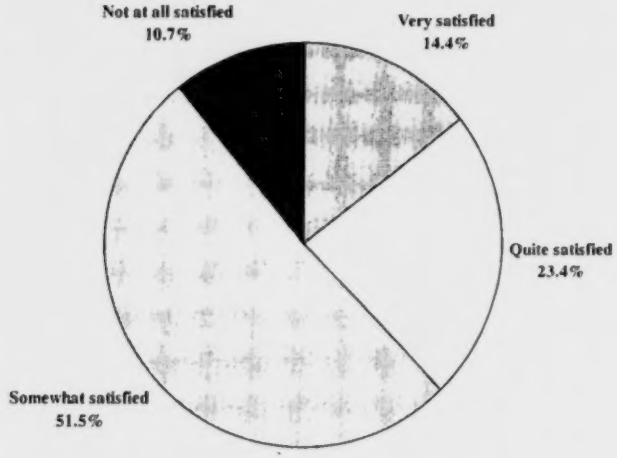
Health Insurance and Health Care

Last year's *Data Book* reported a 13.3 uninsured rate for Nevada children in 2001, based on data from a statewide survey conducted by the CBER at UNLV.[1] The uninsured rates did not vary significantly by region of the state with Washoe County/Carson City having the highest uninsured rate (14.8 percent), followed by rest of state (13.9 percent) and Clark County (12.8 percent). Approximately 83 percent of Nevada households with children were covered by health insurance.

The Las Vegas Perspective, an annual survey of Clark County residents conducted by CBER, included a few questions on health care in 2002. The following summarizes 651 respondents' responses:[2]

- Nearly 78 (77.8) percent of the households with children in southern Nevada had all members currently covered by some form of health insurance or health plan in the fall of 2002.
- Approximately 13 (12.9) percent of the respondents tried to get health insurance for themselves or someone else in their family, but were unable to do so.
- The majority of the respondents (66.4 percent) considered their personal expense for health care that they receive as a problem.
- Overall, respondents were satisfied with the health care that they receive. However, of the 89.3 percent that expressed satisfaction, slightly over one-half were only somewhat satisfied.

Southern Nevadans' Satisfaction with the Quality of Health Care They Receive: 2002



Source: Las Vegas Perspective Survey, CBER, 2002.

Health Issues Continued

Mental Health

"Mental health is fundamental to health."[3] Mental health is how people think, feel, and act as they face life's situations.[4] Poor mental health can affect a child's schoolwork, relationships, and physical health.[5]

According to the federal report, *National Action Agenda on Children's Mental Health*, "The nation is facing a public crisis in mental health for infants, children, and adolescents."[6] The following statistics reveal why. "In the United States, one in ten children and adolescents suffer from mental illness severe enough to cause some level of impairment. Yet, in any given year, it is estimated that only about 20 percent of impaired children receive mental health services."[7]

From January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2001, Nevada Rural Clinics admitted 728 children into mental health services in rural Nevada.[8] Of the 728 children, 455 were classified as seriously emotionally disturbed. The Rural Clinics provide mental-health services in Carson City, Minden, South Lake Tahoe, Dayton, Silver Springs, Fernley, Yerington, Hawthorne, Fallon, Lovelock, Winnemucca, Battle Mountain, Elko, Ely, Mesquite, Pahrump, Tonapah, Caliente, and Overton. (Data from Washoe and Clark counties were unavailable at time of publication.)

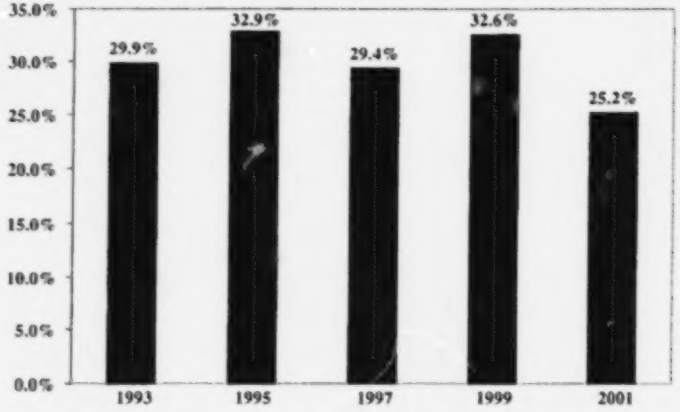
Children and youth with mental-health problems should be closely watched for signs of suicide. Findings from the 2001 Nevada Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) revealed that 29.7 percent of high school students in Nevada felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks during the past 12 months that they stopped some usual activity, 19.6 percent seriously considered attempting suicide, 16.4 percent made a suicide plan, and 10.8 percent attempted suicide.[9]

Tobacco, Marijuana, and Alcohol Use

Findings from the Nevada YRBS revealed that in 2001, 25.2 and 26.6 percents, respectively, of high school students in Nevada were current cigarette and marijuana users, meaning they smoked on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey. The survey also showed that the largest percentage of children and youth were ages 11 to 14 when they smoked a whole cigarette for the first time.[10] Approximately 18 percent tried marijuana before their 13th birthday. Males were more likely to have tried marijuana than females at the early age (21.1 percent versus 14.2 percent, respectively).

The table on the next page provides a comparison of data from the 1999 and 2001 YRBS. Alcohol and cigarette use among Nevada

Percentage of Nevada High School Students Who Smoked: 1993-2001



Source: Nevada Youth Risk Behavior Survey Reports, 1999, 2001.

Health Issues Continued

Nevada High School Students' Smoking and Drug Use: 1999 and 2001

Smoking and Drug Use	*1999*	*2001*
	Percent	*Percent*
Smoked cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days	32.6	25.2
Smoked marijuana on one or more of the past 30 days	25.9	26.6
Had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days	53.0	47.5

Note: Those who smoked or drank on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey were labeled current users.
Source: *Nevada Youth Risk Behavior Survey Reports*, 1999, 2001

high school students declined since 1999; marijuana use, however, increased slightly.

Nationally, according to 2001 YRBS data, 28.5 percent of high school students were current smokers and 13.8 percent were current frequent smokers.[11] White and Hispanic students were more likely than black students to report current smoking. These percentages were down from the 1999 YRBS survey which reported 34.8 percent of teens as current smokers and 16.8 percent as current frequent smokers.

Programs have been implemented in Nevada to discourage tobacco use. Tar Wars, a tobacco-free education program sponsored by the American Academy of Family Physicians, for example, targets fourth- and fifth-grade students with lessons on "the short-term, image-based consequences of tobacco use and how to think critically about tobacco advertising."[12] The program, which began in Nevada in 1999, reached about 9,000 children statewide during 2001-2002.[13]

The sale of tobacco products over the Internet is a recent challenge in reducing tobacco use among children, primarily due to the availability of Web sites (400 sell to U.S. smokers) and lack of effective safeguards which prevent underage smokers from buying the products.[14] The State Youth Tobacco Survey 2000 revealed that 1.0 and 1.4 percents (median) of middle school and high school students, respectively, purchased cigarettes via the Internet.[15]

Children and youth are also likely to have their first drink at an early age. According to the YRBS survey, approximately 33 percent of Nevada high school students reported that they had their first drink of alcohol, other than a few sips, before their 13th birthday.[16] Although alcohol use, as measured by percentage of current users, has decreased over the last two years, it is, as stated by Nevada's First Lady Dema Guinn, the drug of choice among our high school students.[17] "Every school," according to First Lady Guinn who was involved with the Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free initiative, "needs a comprehensive alcohol policy and program. Students need to be informed on what alcohol can do to their body, mind and behavior, so they can make the proper choice when confronted with alcohol."[18]

Two current studies demonstrate the effects of alcohol on children and youth. Researchers from the University of Minnesota, using data from the Minnesota Twins Family Study, showed that drinking at an early age was strongly associated with future problem behaviors, such as antisocial personality disorders and conduct disorders.[19] Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine found that alcohol-use disorders (AUDs), "during adolescence were

Health Issues Continued

associated with health problems, including modest but demonstratable liver injury."[20]

On a more positive note, researchers at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston found a correlation between a parent/child relationship and a teen's drinking behavior, based on surveys of more than 6,500 students from the sixth through eighth grades, over a three-year period.[21] They concluded that teenagers who had a close relationship with their parents were less likely to drink than their counterparts.

Obesity

The health consequences of being an overweight teen are serious.[22] Overweight teens are at increased risk later in life for hypertension, heart disease, diabetes, and some cancers.[23] The percentage of overweight children and adolescents in United States increased significantly from 1963-1965 to 1999-2000. During 1963-1965, 4.2 percent and 4.6 percent of children ages 6 to 11 and 12 to 19, respectively, were overweight.[24] The corresponding percentages for 1999-2000 were 15.3 and 15.5 percent, respectively." In the Nevada YBRS, high school students were asked to describe their weight. Approximately 26 percent (25.7) reported that they were slightly overweight and 3.8 percent reported they were very overweight.[25] Asked if they exercised to lose weight or keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days, 39.4 percent said no.[26] Asked if they ate less food, fewer calories, or foods low in fat to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight, 60.1 percent said no.[27]

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Disorder)

Young people are at-risk for contracting HIV/AIDS due to their age, biological and emotional development, and financial dependence.[28] The AIDS epidemic is a global concern, not just a U.S. concern, as its impact on young people is expected to grow.[29]

The number of cumulative reported human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) [not yet AIDS] and AIDS cases among Clark County children and youth less than 18 years of age through October 31, 2002, was 67. The rest of the state reported 9 cases.

Cumulative Reported HIV (Not Yet AIDS) & AIDS Cases among Nevada Children and Youth 17 and under by Age and Risk: October 2002

Clark County								
Age	*MSM**	*IDU***	*MSM* & IDU***	*Heterosexual Contact*	*Transfusion*	*Mother w/ HIV*	*Not Specified*	*Total*
<5	0	0	0	0	1	43	0	44
5-12	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	5
13-17	5	0	1	7	0	0	5	18
TOTAL	5	0	1	7	2	47	5	67
Rest of State								
Age	*MSM**	*IDU***	*MSM* & IDU***	*Heterosexual Contact*	*Transfusion*	*Mother w/ HIV*	*Not Specified*	*Total*
<5	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
5-12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13-17	0	1	0	1	0	0	3	5
TOTAL	0	1	0	1	0	4	3	9

*MSM = sexual transmission among men who have sex with men.
**IDU = transmission through injecting drug use.
Source: Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Community Health, 2002.

Health Issues Continued

"The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that 4,219 cumulative cases of AIDS [in the U.S.] among adolescents, or children ages 13 through 19, were reported through June 2001."[30] Based on 36 states' HIV cases of adolescents:

- 43 percent were male and 57 percent were female
- 25 percent were white, not Hispanic
- 67 percent were black, not Hispanic
- 6 percent were Hispanic
- Less than 1 percent were Asian/Pacific Islander or American Indian/Alaskan Native.[31]

Children Living with HIV/AIDS in the World: End 1999

Country	*Children 0-14*
Sub-Saharan Africa	1,000,000
Ethiopia	150,000
Nigeria	120,000
South and South-East Asia	200,000
Latin America	28,000
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	15,000
North America	11,000
U.S.	10,000
Caribbean	9,600
North Africa and Middle East	8,000
East Asia and Pacific	5,200
Western Europe	4,100
Australia and New Zealand	190
GLOBAL TOTAL	1,300,000

Note: Estimates are given in rounded numbers. Unrounded numbers were used in the calculation of rates and regional totals, so there may be small discrepancies between the regional/global totals and the sum of the country figures.
Source: UNAIDS, June 2002, *Report on the Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic*, available online at: <http://www.unaids.org/barcelona/presskit/barcelona%20report/contents.html> as of December 2, 2002.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD)

Chlamydia and gonorrhea are common STDs. Chlamydia is estimated to infect 308.4 per 100,000 males aged 15-19 and 2,359.4 per 100,000 females aged 15-19.[32] "Gonnorhea rates are highest among females between the ages of 15 and 19 and males between the ages of 20 and 24."[33]

According to the CDC, teens are at-risk of contracting STDs because they are likely to have risky sexual behavior, that is, nonuse of a condom and multiple sexual partners.[34] Findings from a CDC study "suggest that a greater effort is needed to encourage health care providers to talk with teenage patients about STD and pregnancy prevention."[35] Based on the CDC's 1999 YRBS only 42.8 percent of females and 26.4 percent of males discussed either topic with their health-care provider.[36]

Percentage of Nevada Students Who Received AIDS or HIV Education in School: 1993-2001

Year of Study	*Received Education Percent*	*Did Not Receive Education Percent*	*Not Sure*
1993	82.0	10.8	7.2
1995	86.8	7.3	5.9
1997	90.9	6.0	3.1
1999	86.6	7.7	5.7
2001	86.5	8.3	5.2

Source: *Youth Risk Behavior Survey Report*, 1999, 2001.

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Health Issues Continued

According to the YRBS data since 1995, the majority of students in Nevada were taught about AIDS and HIV infection in school. The most recent data show that 86.5 percent of high school students received education on the topic.[37]

Trends in sexual risk behavior among Nevada high school students are shown in the table below. Sixty-two percent of Nevada teens used condoms during their last sexual intercourse, up from 59.0 percent in 1997. This is consistent with the national trend showing that in 2001, 57.9 percent of adolescents who were currently active used condoms, up from 46.2 percent in 1991.[38]

Trends in Sexual Risk Behaviors among Nevada High School Students: 1995-2001

	1995	*1997*	*1999*	*2001*
Year of Study	*Percent Yes*	*Percent Yes*	*Percent Yes*	*Percent Yes*
Ever had sexual intercourse	**56.4**	**47.1**	**51.3**	**49.1**
Currently sexually active*	**40.0**	**34.0**	**37.0**	**35.0**
Alcohol or drug use before last sexual intercourse**	**24.0**	**29.0**	**28.0**	**25.0**
Four or more sex partners during lifetime	**23.0**	**15.0**	**18.0**	**16.5**
Condom use during last sexual intercourse***	**NA**	**59.0**	**55.0**	**62.0**

*Sexual intercourse during the three months preceding the survey.
**Of those who are currently active.
***Of those who ever had sexual intercourse.
Source: Nevada Youth Risk Survey Behavior Survey Report, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001.

Reported Gonorrhea Cases in Nevada by Age, Gender, and Race: 2002

Demographics	*Clark*	*Washoe*	*Rest of State*	*Total*
Ages 10-12				
Females				
White				**1**
Males				
White				**1**
Black (African American)				**1**
Unknown/ not reported				**1**
TOTAL				**4**
Ages 13-17				
Females				
Asian	**3**	**0**	**0**	**3**
Black (African American)	**53**	**11**	**1**	**65**
White	**43**	**13**	**2**	**58**
Unknown/Not reported	**86**	**0**	**1**	**87**
Males				
Black (African American)	**24**	**3**	**0**	**27**
White	**6**	**0**	**1**	**7**
Unknown/Not reported	**35**	**0**	**0**	**35**
TOTAL	**250**	**27**	**5**	**282**
NEVADA Ages 10-17				**286**

Reported Chlamydia Cases in Nevada by Age, Gender, and Race: 2002

Demographics	*Clark*	*Washoe*	*Rest of State*	*Total*
Ages 10-12				
Females				
White				**3**
Unknown/Not reported				**1**
Males				**0**
TOTAL				**4**
Ages 13-17				
Females				
Asian	**8**	**1**	**0**	**9**
Black (African American)	**129**	**9**	**1**	**139**
Native American	**0**	**3**	**4**	**7**
White	**200**	**51**	**34**	**285**
Unknown/Not reported	**365**	**0**	**33**	**398**
Males				
Asian	**5**	**0**	**0**	**5**
Black (African American)	**37**	**2**	**0**	**39**
White	**29**	**16**	**8**	**53**
Unknown/Not reported	**93**	**0**	**8**	**101**
TOTAL	**866**	**82**	**88**	**1,036**
NEVADA Ages 10-17				**1,040**

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Bureau of Community Health, 2002.

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Economic Well-Being

Children in Poverty

Nevada

Nevada ranks 21st among the states in the percentage of persons under 18 who are poor.[1] Close to 14 percent of Nevada's children were in poverty in 1999, according to Census 2000 data. This is a slight increase from the 13.0 percent in 1990. Not surprisingly, children living in families headed by females (31.5 percent) were more likely to be in poverty than those living in families headed by males (18.2 percent) or by married couples (7.7 percent). Of the racial/ethnic groups, black (African American) children were most likely to be in poverty, Asian children the least.

Counties

The percent of children in poverty ranged from a low of 4.2 in Storey County to a high of 19.6 in Lincoln County. Pershing and Storey counties had the highest percentage of children in female-headed households in poverty.

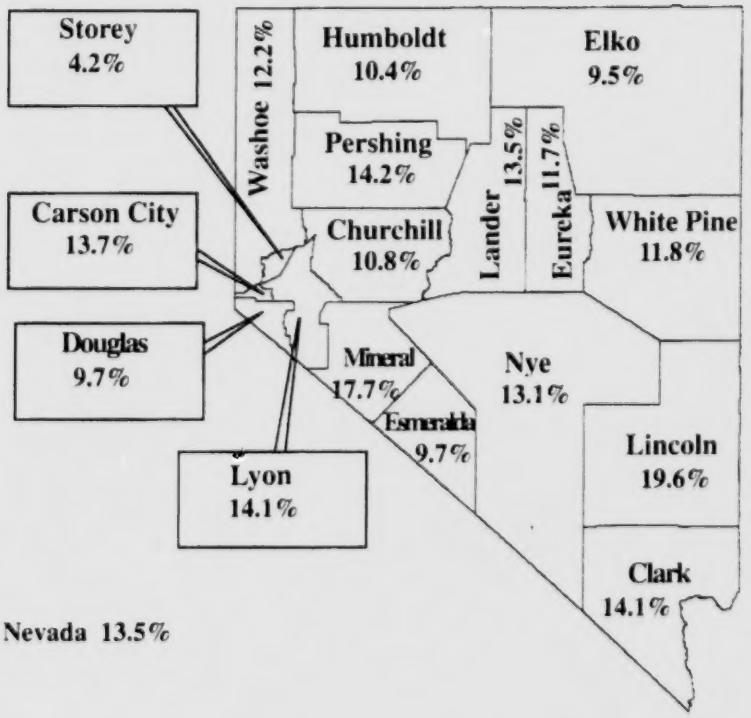
Significant Factors

The poverty rate for children in the U.S. in 1999 was 16.6 percent, according to the 2000 Census.[2] Although child-poverty rates have declined over the decade, there is growing concern that with the recent economic downturn the U.S. will see rising poverty rates.[3] "Reducing child poverty is one of the smartest investments that Americans can make in their nation's future."[4] It will mean "more children entering school ready to learn, more successful schools, and fewer school dropouts, better child health and less strain on public hospitals and public health systems, less stress on the juvenile justice system, and less child hunger and malnutrition, and other important advances."[5]

Definition

The Percent of Children in Poverty is the percentage of children under the age of 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold. In 1999, the U.S. poverty threshold for a family of 4, 2 adults and 2 children, was $16,895.[6]

Estimated Percent of Children under Age 18 in Poverty by Nevada County: 1999



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3. (Table PCT52), 2000.

Nevada KIDS COUNT
Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada Las Vegas
http://kidscount.unlv.edu

Children in Poverty Continued

An affordable housing unit is one that costs no more than 30 percent of a household's income. The tables from the National Low-Income Housing Coalition (see page 31) provide data on market rents and affordability.[7] In Nevada, a very low-income household earning 30 percent of the area median income ($16,815) can only afford a monthly housing cost of $420. This is significantly lower than the fair market rent of $808 for a two-bedroom unit. As a result, a family with one full-time worker earning minimum wage, that is $5.15 per hour, would be able to afford no more than $268, based on cost at 30 percent of income. For families living in poverty, affordable housing may be out of reach.

U.S. Poverty Threshold by Size of Family and Number of Related Children under 18 Years: 1999

Size of Family Unit	*Weighted Average Threshold*	*Related Children under 18 Years*			
		None	*One*	*Two*	*Three*
One person	$8,501				
Householder under 65 years	8,667	$8,667			
Householder 65 years and older	7,990	7,990			
Two persons	10,869				
Householder under 65 years	11,214	11,156	$11,483		
Householder 65 years and over	10,075	10,070	11,440		
Three persons	13,290	13,032	13,410	13,423	
Four persons	17,029	17,184	17,465	16,895	16,954

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, "Poverty 1999," Current Population Survey, available online at: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/threshld/thresh99.html> as of February 14, 2002.

Percent of Related Children in Poverty by Family Status and County: 1999

County	*Percent in Poverty in Female-Headed Families*	*Percent in Poverty in Male-Headed Families*	*Percent in Poverty in Married-Couple Families*	*Percent of Children in Poverty*
Carson City	26.1	18.3	8.5	13.7
Churchill	41.9	5.4	5.9	10.8
Clark	31.6	19.0	8.0	14.1
Douglas	29.3	8.3	5.6	9.7
Elko	31.3	12.1	6.0	9.5
Esmeralda	50.0	0.0	4.9	9.7
Eureka	42.1	19.0	8.4	11.7
Humboldt	38.3	12.4	5.6	10.4
Lander	40.1	15.6	7.9	13.5
Lincoln	51.8	0.0	12.7	19.6
Lyon	32.7	40.3	7.8	14.1
Mineral	28.3	27.8	11.6	17.7
Nye	35.9	16.3	8.0	13.1
Pershing	48.6	27.3	3.2	14.2
Storey	14.5	0.0	3.2	4.2
Washoe	30.1	16.1	7.1	12.2
White Pine	30.1	13.3	7.2	11.8
NEVADA	31.5	18.2	7.7	13.5

Source: CBER calculations from U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, (Table PCT52/PCT76), 2000.

Children in Poverty Continued

Percent of Related Children under 18 Years in Poverty by Race:* 1999

County	*White*	*Black or African American*	*American Indian or Alaskan Native*	*Asian*	*Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander*	*Some Other Race*	*Two of More Races*	*Hispanic or Latino***	*White, Not Hispanic or Latino*
Carson City	11.8	27.5	14.7	14.5	NP	28.5	13.8	26.2	10.2
Churchill	9.4	18.8	35.9	0.0	0.0	13.6	9.7	20.0	8.0
Clark	10.8	28.9	17.6	8.3	5.0	20.1	14.2	19.4	7.9
Douglas	8.7	26.3	33.5	4.4	NP	18.3	13.7	16.0	8.3
Elko	6.5	0.0	27.4	5.4	0.0	23.4	12.7	20.0	4.3
Esmeralda	4.8	NP	55.6	NP	NP	21.2	0.0	19.4	4.8
Eureka	9.6	NP	0.0	0.0	NP	50.0	23.5	13.0	9.9
Humboldt	7.9	0.0	34.7	NP	NP	19.8	2.9	18.9	5.2
Lander	11.3	NP	19.2	NP	NP	7.7	73.8	18.5	11.3
Lincoln	16.8	NP	38.5	0.0	NP	69.8	34.4	58.7	15.8
Lyon	13.8	60.0	23.1	0.0	0.0	8.7	17.4	15.2	13.3
Mineral	13.5	33.3	23.0	0.0	NP	0.0	41.6	22.1	12.0
Nye	11.2	0.0	22.4	21.7	0.0	8.0	52.3	22.7	9.6
Pershing	12.6	0.0	45.2	NP	NP	13.3	20.3	13.5	12.5
Storey	4.5	NP	0.0	NP	NP	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8
Washoe	9.9	25.6	21.1	3.4	24.4	24.0	15.0	23.2	7.5
White Pine	10.9	0.0	48.9	NP	NP	0.0	4.3	3.5	11.6
NEVADA	10.5	28.6	22.5	7.5	9.0	20.7	14.8	20.0	8.0

NP = No Population of Given Race.

*For Census 2000, persons could report more than one race, but the seven racial categories shown are mutually exclusive and include everyone.

**Hispanic or Latino origin is NOT considered a race. People who reported themselves as Hispanic or Latino are also counted in the seven racial categories.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, (Table PCT52/PCT76), 2000.

Children in Poverty Continued

Percentage of Children under Age 18 in Nevada and the U.S. Who Are below Poverty in the 2000 Census

Poverty Status	*Nevada*	*U.S.*
Below poverty	13.5	16.6
Below 50% poverty	5.8	7.4
Below 200% poverty	36.4	37.8

Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 3 (Table P15, PCT39 & PCT40).

Poverty Status of Families in Nevada with Related Children by Family Type in the 2000 Census

Family Type	*Percent below Poverty*
Families with related children under age 18	11.4
Married-couple families with related children under age 18	6.1
Single-mother families with related children under age 18	26.3
Single-father families with related children under age 18	15.6

Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 3 (Table P90), available online at: <http://www.aecf.org/cgi-bin/aeccensus.cgi?action=profileresults&area=30&section=&printerfriendly=1> as of November 1, 2002.

Poverty Status of Related Children in Nevada by Family Type and Age Group in the 2000 Census

Family Type and Age Group	*Percent below Poverty*
Related children under age 18	13.5
In married-couple families	7.7
Under age 5	9.4
Age 5	8.4
Ages 6 to 17	6.8
In single-mother families	31.5
Under age 5	39.7
Age 5	33.2
Ages 6 to 17	28.2
In single-father families	18.2
Under age 5	22.6
Age 5	21.5
Ages 6 to 17	15.8

Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 3 (Table PCT52), available online at: <http://www.aecf.org/cgi-bin/aeccensus.cgi?action=profileresults&area=30&section=&printerfriendly=1> as of November 1, 2002.

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Children in Poverty Continued

Nevada Family Income Distribution by Family Type by Presence of Own Children under 18 Years: 1999

Income	*Married-Couple Families*		*Other Families*			
			Male Householder, No Wife Present		*Female Householder, No Husband Present*	
	With Own Children under 18 Years	*No Own Children under 18 Years*	*With Own Children under 18 Years*	*No Own Children under 18 Years*	*With Own Children under 18 Years*	*No Own Children under 18 Years*
Less than $10,000	2.3	2.3	9.8	4.4	17.9	6.0
$10,000 to $14,999	1.8	2.4	7.4	3.9	11.1	5.1
$15,000 to $19,999	2.6	3.5	7.7	5.1	10.6	6.8
$20,000 to $24,999	4.4	4.7	9.1	6.6	12.2	7.5
$25,000 to $29,999	4.8	5.0	10.6	7.1	10.3	7.8
$30,000 to $34,999	5.4	5.7	8.9	8.3	8.0	7.9
$35,000 to $39,999	5.6	6.0	7.3	6.4	7.4	7.3
$40,000 to $44,999	6.5	6.3	8.0	7.6	5.8	7.5
$45,000 to $49,999	6.1	6.0	5.0	6.7	3.9	7.2
$50,000 to $59,999	12.8	11.6	8.7	11.8	5.1	11.4
$60,000 to $74,999	16.0	14.4	7.6	12.4	3.7	11.3
$75,000 to $99,999	15.8	15.1	5.0	12.3	2.4	8.1
$100,000 to $124,999	7.5	7.6	1.8	3.7	0.7	2.8
$125,000 to $149,000	3.0	3.5	1.2	1.9	0.2	1.2
$150,000 to $199,999	2.4	2.8	0.7	0.8	0.4	1.0
$200,000 and more	3.0	3.1	1.2	1.0	0.3	1.1
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: CBER calculations of percentages, Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 3 (Table PCT38).

Children in Poverty Continued

Family Income in Nevada by County: 2002

Location	2002 Estimated Median Family Income (HUD)*	Maximum Affordable Monthly Housing Cost by Percent of Family AMI**	
	Annual	30%	50%
Carson City	$60,000	$450	$750
Churchill County	$53,100	$398	$664
Clark County	$54,300	$407	$679
Douglas County	$63,800	$478	$798
Elko County	$63,400	$476	$792
Esmeralda County	$50,400	$378	$630
Eureka County	$61,700	$463	$771
Humboldt County	$58,200	$436	$728
Lander County	$54,900	$412	$686
Lincoln County	$33,400	$250	$418
Lyon County	$44,200	$332	$552
Mineral County	$44,200	$332	$552
Nye County	$54,300	$407	$679
Pershing County	$49,500	$371	$619
Storey County	$66,400	$498	$830
Washoe County	$62,300	$467	$779
White Pine County	$55,000	$412	$688
NEVADA	$56,050	$420	$701

*Developed by HUD, based on 1990 Census family-income estimates.
**AMI = Area Median Income.
Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition, "Rental Housing for America's Poor Families: Farther Out of Reach Than Ever: 2002," available online at: <http://www.nlihc.org/cgi-bin/oor2002.pl?getstate=on&getcounty=on&county=_all&state=NV> as of October 30, 2002.

Fair Market Rents* in Nevada by County and Number of Bedrooms: 2002

Location	Zero Bedroom	One Bedroom	Two Bedrooms
Carson City	$370	$506	$677
Churchill County	$476	$484	$646
Clark County	$585	$694	$827
Douglas County	$427	$623	$782
Elko County	$432	$495	$659
Esmeralda County	$459	$573	$645
Eureka County	$351	$573	$645
Humboldt County	$516	$542	$653
Lander County	$355	$549	$645
Lincoln County	$352	$529	$645
Lyon County	$419	$502	$645
Mineral County	$357	$487	$648
Nye County	$585	$694	$827
Pershing County	$488	$495	$659
Storey County	$495	$501	$659
Washoe County	$537	$622	$800
White Pine County	$352	$485	$645
NEVADA	$561	$665	$808

*Fair market rent estimates include shelter rent and the cost of utilities, but not telephone. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "Fair Market Rent Definitions and Sample," available online at: <http://www.universallivingwage.org/fmrsample.htp> as of March 3, 2003.
Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition, "Rental Housing for America's Poor Families: Farther Out of Reach Than Ever: 2002," available online at: <http://www.nlihc.org/cgi-bin/oor2002.pl?getstate=on&getcounty=on&county=_all&state=NV> as of October 30, 2002.

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Families with Children Headed by a Single Parent

Nevada

Approximately 30 percent of families with children were headed by a single parent, according to the 2000 Census. Nationally, 27.1 percent of families with children under 18 were headed by a single parent--20.9 and 6.2 percents of the families were headed by a female and by a male, respectively.[1]

Counties

The percent of families with children headed by a single parent ranged from a low of 13.8 in Eureka County to a high of 33.9 in Carson City.

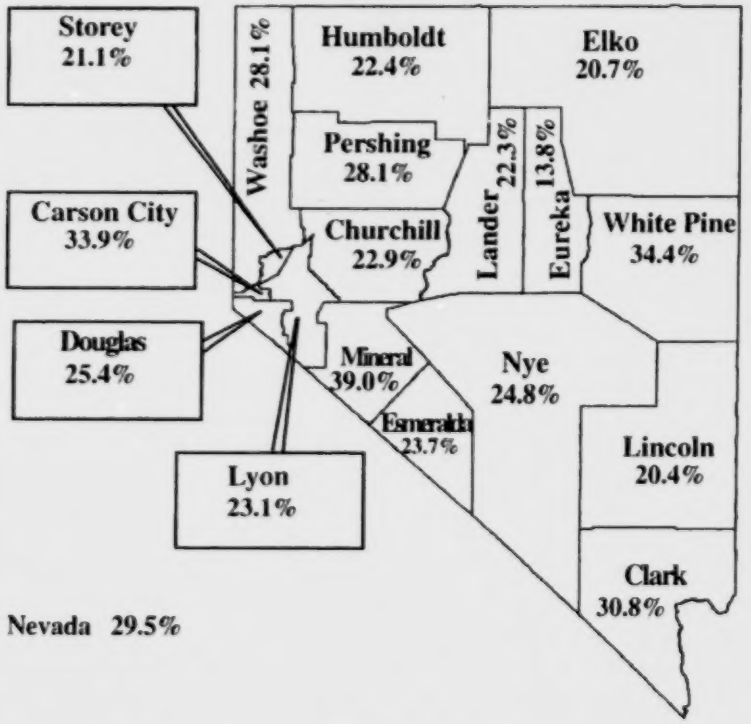
Significant Factors

Children who are raised with married parents usually have more social and economic benefits than those living in single-parent households.[2] Findings from a Current Population Survey show that in 2001 children ages five years and younger who lived in families with a female householder (no spouse present) were over five times more likely to be poor than those in married-couple families (48.9 versus 9.2 percent).[3] Children raised in single-parent households are at greater risk of dropping out of school, early childbearing, and are more likely to be idle in young adulthood than children living in two-parent households.[4]

Definition

"Percent of Families with Children Headed by a Single Parent is the percentage of all families with 'own children' under age 18 living in the household, who are headed by a person—male or female—without a spouse present in the home. 'Own children' are never-married children under 18 who are related to the householder (head of household) by birth, marriage, or adoption."[5]

Percent of Families with Children Headed by a Single Parent: 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, Table P15, 2000.

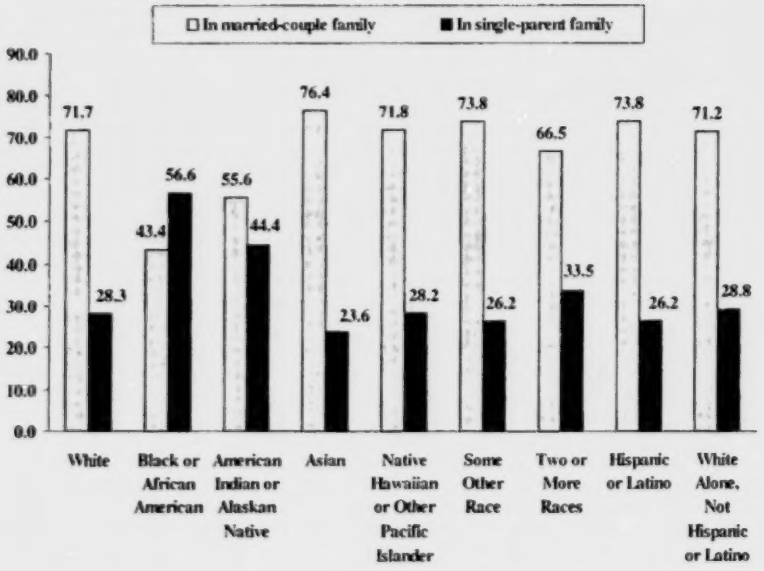
Families with Children Headed by a Single Parent Continued

Median Family Income for Nevada Families with Children* by Family Type: 2000

Family Type	*Number of Families*	*Median Family Income*
Families with own children under age 18	245,234	47,577
Married-couple families with own children under age 18	172,858	57,707
Single-mother families with own children under age 18	49,763	24,148
Single-father families with own children under age 18	22,613	32,114

*A never-married child under 18 years who is a son or daughter by birth, a stepchild, or an adopted child of the householder.
Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 3 (Tables P15, PCT39, & PCT40).

Percentage of Children in Married-Couple or Single-Parent Nevada Families* by Race and Hispanic Origin: in the Calendar Year 2000



*The percentage of families of that race/ethnicity with related/own children. Not all families of a given race/ethnicity.
Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 1 (Table P34).

Children Who Live in a Family Where No Parent Is Employed in the Labor Market

Nevada

In 2000, 11.4 percent of Nevada children under 18 years lived in families where no parent had employment. That is, if the child was living with two parents neither were in the labor force; if living with only the father or mother, the resident parent was unemployed. Clark County had the highest percentage, 12.7, and Storey County had the lowest, 3.2.

Significant Factors

Children who live in families where one or both parents have secure employment are likely to be better off than children who live in families where no parent has secure employment. Parents with secure employment generally have health-care, child-care, sick-leave, and vacation benefits.

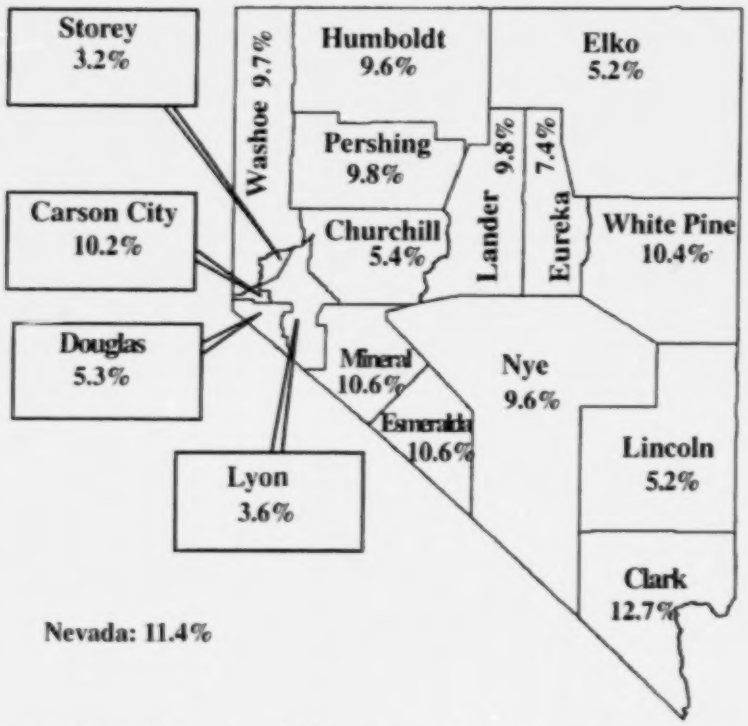
Unless a family receives adequate and steady income flows on a timely basis, say weekly or monthly, then the material well-being of the family will almost assuredly suffer. Family income influences one's manner of living. As a result, family income underpins child well-being.

According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2002*, the percent of all children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment decreased from 30 in 1990 to 25 in 1999.[1] The decrease was attributed to the increase in the percentage of single mothers working full time.[2] The 2000 Census data show that for the nation 58.6 percent of all parents with children under six years were in the labor force.[3]

Definition

Children Who Live in a Family Where No Parent Is Employed in the Labor Market "is the share of all children under age 18 living in families where no parent is employed."

Children Living with Parent(s) Not in Labor Force: 2001



Source: CBER calculations from U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 3, 2000.

Child Care

Nevada

During January 1, 2002 to June 30, 2002, there were 1,054 licensed child-care facilities in Nevada. The two most common types were family home and child-care centers (560 and 360, respectively). See table at right. Based on a three-year average of data (1999-2001) from the Current Population Survey, 27 percent of children under age 6 in Nevada were in paid child care while their parents worked. The corresponding percentage for the nation was 26.[1]

In Nevada, 18,213 children received child-care support services during fiscal year 2002. Most children were served in center-care settings (83.4 percent). See table on next page.

The 2002 Las Vegas Perspective Survey, conducted by CBER, queried southern Nevadans about their child care. In 2002, households paid, on average, $80 per week for child care. Households were most likely to have paid for child care provided by the family (53.5 percent), followed by care provided in home, but not family (28.3 percent), and preschool facility (18.2 percent).[2]

Findings from the Nevada Child Care Work Force study, conducted by Professor Essa at UNR, revealed that in choosing child care, parents were most likely to consider a program that provided "warm and loving interaction with children" and "cleanliness and safety of the facility."[3] Another significant finding was that parents experienced problems finding satisfactory child care. The three most mentioned problems encountered were (1) care was too expensive (56 percent), (2) quality was less than what parent was looking for (49 percent), and (3) caregiver style (47 percent).[4]

Definition

"'Child care' . . . means the full range of services used by families to educate and nurture children--services that also allow parents to work or go to school."[5]

Number of Child-Care Licenses in Nevada by Type of Facility: January 1, 2002 - June 30, 2002

*Type of Facility**	*Licenses*
Family home	560
Child-care center	360
Accommodation facility	41
Group home	32
Preschool	32
On-site child-care facility	9
Nursery for infants and toddlers	14
Child-care institution	4
Special-needs facility	2
TOTAL	1,054
TOTAL SPACES	43,857

*Definitions of facilities are in the Notes section.
Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services, Bureau of Services for Child Care, *Statewide Child Care Licensing Report*, 2002.

Child Care Continued

Significant Factors

In 1999, about 8.7 million preschool children of employed parents were in child-care arrangements, based on findings from the National Survey of America's Families.[6] Additionally, the survey revealed that preschool-age children (0-4) with an employed parent were cared for by center-based care (28 percent), parent/other care (27 percent), relative care (27 percent), family child care (14 percent), and nanny/babysitter (4 percent).[7]

Finding child care that is developmentally appropriate and available during unconventional work hours can be challenging.[8] In cities where tourism is the major industry, child-care availability for various work shifts can be a concern.

A common source, kin care (by relatives), has been used by families for decades, its choice being determined by a number of factors including a child's age, scheduling needs, variable and unpredictable work obligations, availability of alternatives, and cost.[9] According to the 2000 Census, 45,286 grandparents in Nevada lived with their own grandchildren ages 18 and under.[10] About 41 percent (18,685) were responsible for their grandchildren.[11] Of the grandparents who were responsible for their own grandchildren, about three-fourths of the grandparents had assumed responsibility for their grandchildren for one year or more. See table on next page.

Characteristics of Child-Care Subsidy* Programming in Nevada: 2002

Subsidy Payment Methods	*Number*	*Percent*
Number of children served via grants or contracts	3,074	16.9
Number of children served via direct certificates (payment voucher)	15,139	83.1
Total Number of Children Served per Type of Child-Care Setting	18,213	100.0
Child's home	540	3.0
Family home	2,384	13.1
Group home	92	0.5
Center care	15,197	83.4
TOTAL	18,213	100.0

*State and federal funds to subsidize low-income parents' purchase of child care. Such child-care subsidies most commonly take the form of vouchers to clients or direct payments to providers that offset some or all of the cost of care.
Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division. 2002.

Child Care Continued

The Percentage of Nevada Parents Citing Problems in Seeking Child Care: 2002

Problem	*Percent*
Care was too expensive	56
Quality was less than what parent was looking for	49
Could not find caregiver parent was comfortable leaving children with	47
Care was in an inconvenient or undesirable location	38
Hours of operation did not meet family's needs	29
Could not find part-time care	26
Caregiver did not reflect family's cultural values or language	24
Could not find a place where more than one of family's children could be cared for	18
Could not find a place that took a child with disabilities	3

Source: Essa, Eva L., *Who Cares for Nevada's Children? A Profile of the Demographics, Economics, and Quality Aspects of Child Care in Nevada*, 2002.

The Number and Percentage of Grandparents* in Nevada Who Are Responsible for Their Own Grandchildren under 18 Years of Age by Length of Time: 2000

Length of Time	*Number*	*Percent*
Less than 6 months	2,561	13.7
6-11 months	2,129	11.4
1-2 years	4,770	25.5
3-4 years	2,790	14.9
5 years or more	6,435	34.5
TOTAL	18,685	100.0

*Grandparents living with own grandchildren.
Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File 3 (Table PCT8).

The Percentage of Mothers over Age 16 That Are Working by Age of Their Children: 2000

Age of Own Children	*Percent of Mothers 16 and over in the Labor Force*
With children under age 6	61.9
With children ages 6-17	74.8

Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census Summary File SF3 (Table P045).

Child Support

Nevada

Nevada's total child-support collections (withholding, voluntary payment, unemployment compensation, and income tax withholding) have increased over the past four years as shown in the table.

Counties

Close to 46 percent of support amount due was distributed in 2001, a decrease from 49.7 percent in 2000. Three state child-support offices are located in Elko, Las Vegas, and Reno. Each of Nevada's counties, with the exception of Eureka and Storey, operates child-support agencies. The state office in Elko manages Eureka County child-support efforts and the state office in Reno manages Storey County child-support efforts.[1]

Significant Factors

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that "in the spring of 2000, an estimated 13.5 million parents had custody of 21.7 children under 21 years of age whose other parent lived somewhere else." Eighty-five percent of all custodial parents were mothers and 15 percent were fathers, and "about 26.2 percent of all children under 21 living in families had a parent not living in the home."[2] Additionally, the Bureau found that, on average, custodial mothers who received partial child-support received $3,800 in 1999, whereas mothers who received full payments averaged $4,900.[3] The corresponding figures for custodial fathers were $3,200 and $4,200. The main reason custodial parents gave for not establishing a legal agreement for support was that they did not feel a need to make it legal.[4]

Definition

Child Support is financial support paid by parents to help support a child or children of whom they do not have custody.

Total Child-Support Collections in Nevada: 1998-2001

Fiscal Year	*Amount of Child-Support Collection*
1998	$91,076,767
1999	101,101,396
2000	106,516,115
2001	110,863,315

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, Child Support Enforcement Program, 1998-2001.

Nevada Child-Support Enforcement Data State Fiscal Year: 2001

Category	*2000*	*2001*
Total number of children and youth with open child-support cases at the end of the fiscal year	143,422	103,997
Total amount of current support due	$128,494,209	$159,370,979
Total amount of current support distributed	$63,817,527	$72,989,111
Annual percentage of current support amount due which was distributed	49.7%	45.8%
Total cumulative amount of unpaid prior support due for all fiscal years	$641,849,988	$661,150,884
Total amount of unpaid prior support distributed	$27,901,546	$34,100,380
Annual percentage of unpaid prior support due which was distributed	4.4%	5.2%

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, Child Support Enforcement Program, 2001.

Education and Achievement

Characteristics of the Formal Education System in Nevada

Education continues to be an important indicator of child well-being in Nevada. This section begins with some of the "hot education issues" in this state, followed by a presentation of summary data on the formal education system in Nevada.

Hot Education Issues

Issue One: School Funding. The U.S. Census reports that Nevada public schools spent $5,736 per student in 1999-2000, lower than the national average of $6,836.[1] Only 11 states spent less per student than Nevada.

Issue Two: Recruitment of Teachers. Administrators attribute the difficulty in hiring qualified teachers to southern Nevada's fast-paced growth and lower-than-average beginning teacher salaries. A recent report by The Education Trust reported that in 1999-2000, 30 percent of secondary classes in core academic subjects in Nevada schools were taught by unqualified teachers. They did not have a major or minor in the subject they taught.[2] Nevada education officials question the validity of the statistics. Clark County School District Superintendent Carlos Garcia's response to the report was, "It's obviously wrong. Very few states have licensing requirements as demanding as Nevada's."[3]

Are Nevada teachers' salaries lower than the national average? The average salary of Nevada teachers in 2000-2001, according to an American Federation of Teachers study, was $44,234, $984 above the national average of $43,250.[4] Among the neighboring states Nevada ranked near the middle (California $52,480, Oregon $44,988, Idaho $37,109, Arizona $36,502, and Utah $36,441). The average salary for beginning teachers was $29,413. Nevada ranked 15th among the states and the District of Columbia on average teachers' pay and 14th on beginning teachers' average pay. The Las Vegas area, however, ranked 80th among the hundred biggest cities (based in 1990 census) on beginning teacher salaries.[5]

Issue Three: High School Dropouts. Though the percentage of high school dropouts has declined in the last two years, The Annie Casey Foundation, in its *2002 KIDS COUNT Data Book*, ranked Nevada 49th on the percentage of teens ages 16 to 19 who were high school dropouts in 1999.[6] The availability of relatively high-paying jobs in the service industries may partially account for Nevada's relatively high dropout rate. A 1999 telephone survey of 115 Clark County high school dropouts revealed that the main reason for dropping out was economics: to find a job/work (31 percent), followed by a dislike of school (20 percent).[7]

Issue Four: Attracting High School Graduates to the University and Community College System of Nevada (UCCSN) Institutions. The number of Nevada public high school graduates who immediately enrolled in UCCSN increased from 5,607 in 1999 to 5,906 in 2001.[8] Enrollment as a percentage of graduates, however, actually decreased from 45.9 percent in 2000 to 43.8 percent in 2001. Similarly, Clark County's percentage decreased from 45.8 to 41.3. This decrease raised the question about the "drawing power" of the Millennium Scholarships in attracting students to UCCSN institutions.[9] (See page 46 for a discussion of the Millennium Scholarship.)

Characteristics of the Formal Education System in Nevada Continued

Summary Data on the Formal Education System: 2000-2001

In Nevada's 17 school districts there were 485 public schools: 302 elementary schools, 72 junior/middle schools, 74 high schools, and 29 special schools (8 charter schools were included in the count). Special schools were in Clark (19), Carson City (3), Douglas (3), Churchill (1), Lincoln (1), Washoe (1), and White Pine (1) counties. Charter schools were in Washoe (4), Clark (3), and Churchill (1) counties.

Public-school enrollment was 340,706, a 4.6 percent increase over the 325,610 in 1999-2000. Most of the increase in enrollment, understandably, was in southern Nevada, which experienced a 12.9 percent increase in growth over the past year.

There were 16,127 students enrolled in Nevada private schools. Approximately one-half of the counties reported private-school enrollment. By far, Clark County reported the highest enrollment with 11,337 students, followed by Washoe County with 3,793 students.

The percentage of white students enrolled in Nevada public schools was 56.7. Storey County reported the highest percentage of white students (88.3) and Clark County, the lowest (49.9). As with other southwestern states, the percentage of Hispanic students has increased. In 2000-2001, the Hispanic student population was 25.7 percent, an increase over the 23.9 percent reported in 1999-2000.

Nevada Public Schools' Enrollment (PK*-12) by School District: 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

School District	*Enrollment** Number*		*Change in Enrollment*** Percent*
	1999-2000	*2000-2001*	*1999-2000 to 2000-2001*
Carson City	8,365	8,431	0.8
Churchill	4,860	4,808	-1.1
Clark	217,526	231,655	6.5
Douglas	7,158	7,033	-1.7
Elko	10,161	10,100	-0.6
Esmeralda	105	107	1.9
Eureka	347	305	-12.1
Humboldt	4,034	3,805	-5.7
Lander	1,534	1,449	-5.5
Lincoln	1,017	1,018	0.1
Lyon	6,539	6,666	1.9
Mineral	907	872	-3.9
Nye	5,444	5,290	-2.8
Pershing	963	900	-6.5
Storey	458	445	-2.8
Washoe	54,508	56,268	3.2
White Pine	1,684	1,554	-7.7
NEVADA	325,610	340,706	4.6

*Pre-Kindergarten refers to 3- and 4-year-old children receiving special education.
**End of the first school month.
***Change in enrollment is the percentage increase or decrease in total student enrollment from the year prior to the previous school year.
Source: "Student Enrollment and Licensed Personel Information," *Research Bulletin*, Nevada Department of Education, Volume 42, March 2001.

Characteristics of the Formal Education System in Nevada Continued

Nevada Public Schools' Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity and School District: 2000-2001

School District	Total Students					
	NA/AN*	Asian/PI**	Hispanic	Black***	White	Total
Carson City	278	191	1,618	86	6,258	8,431
Churchill	347	257	421	100	3,683	4,808
Clark	1,989	15,201	66,692	32,149	115,624	231,655
Douglas	175	130	634	54	6,040	7,033
Elko	720	98	2,115	58	7,109	10,100
Esmeralda	15	0	17	0	75	107
Eureka	19	4	24	0	258	305
Humboldt	151	18	852	25	2,759	3,805
Lander	53	5	291	0	1,100	1,449
Lincoln	17	22	68	20	891	1,018
Lyon	294	59	838	37	5,438	6,666
Mineral	158	8	89	40	577	872
Nye	124	89	610	119	4,348	5,290
Pershing	57	7	213	4	619	900
Storey	3	8	40	1	393	445
Washoe	1,431	3,167	13,020	1,884	36,766	56,268
White Pine	91	18	154	14	1,277	1,554
NEVADA	5,922	19,282	87,696	34,591	193,215	340,706
PERCENT	1.7%	5.7%	25.7%	10.2%	56.7%	100.0%

Note: End of the first school month.
*NA = Native American and AN = Alaskan Native.
**PI = Pacific Islander.
***African American.
Source: "Student Enrollment and Licensed Personel Information." *Research Bulletin,* Nevada Department of Education, Volume 42, March 2001.

Nevada Private School Enrollment by School District: 2000-2001

School District	Grades					
	K-3	4-6	7-8	9-12	Ungraded*	Totals
Carson	310	162	84	20	0	576
Churchill	35	4	5	1	0	45
Clark	5,180	2,572	1,464	2,121	0	11,337
Douglas	39	8	3	24	0	74
Elko	34	34	17	24	0	109
Lyon	19	17	21	23	0	80
Nye	54	23	23	13	0	113
Washoe	1,362	616	452	798	565	3,793
NEVADA	7,033	3,436	2,069	3,024	565	16,127

*Ungraded refers to multiple-grade grouping.
Source: "Student Enrollment and Licensed Personel Information," *Research Bulletin,* Nevada Department of Education, Volume 42, March 2001.

Homeschooling

Nevada

Based on the 15 school districts that provided data, 5,233 students were homeschooled in Nevada during 2000-2001.

County

Clark County had the highest number of students homeschooled, Esmeralda County, the lowest.

Significant Factors

Based on data from the Parent Survey of the National Household Education Surveys Program, the U.S. Department of Education reports that in the spring of 1999, about 850,000 children ages 5 to 17, were homeschooled, less than 2 percent of the children.[1] Additional findings from the survey revealed that homeschoolers differed from nonhomeschoolers in that they (1) were more than likely from two-parent families, (2) most often lived in families where one parent was employed in the labor market, (3) came from large families, and (4) had parents with a high level of education. Homeschoolers were more likely white, non-Hispanic. Parents' top three reasons for homeschooling their children included better education, religious reasons, and poor learning environment in school.

Similar findings were documented by Bauman.[2] In general, he found that homeschooled students do not "stand out" from other students, with the exception that they are likely to live in areas (the rural or suburban west) that have experienced internal migration.

Definition

Homeschoolers are students whose "parents reported them being schooled at home instead of a public or private school, . . ."[3]

Homeschool Attendance by School District in Nevada: 2000-2001

School District	*Number K-3*	*Number 4-6*	*Number 7-8*	*Number 9-12*	*Total Number*
Carson	34	32	16	20	102
Churchill	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Clark	772	762	684	743	2,961
Douglas	NA	NA	NA	NA	298
Elko	63	60	76	74	273
Esmeralda	3	3	4	0	10
Eureka	5	5	4	2	16
Humboldt	15	17	23	23	78
Lander	6	7	16	8	37
Lincoln	8	3	1	4	16
Lyon	31	50	29	73	183
Mineral	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nye	151	86	92	83	412
Pershing	5	9	2	1	17
Storey	5	6	3	1	15
Washoe*	NA	NA	NA	NA	799
White Pine	4	6	4	2	16
NEVADA					5,233

Note: NA = Not Applicable.
*464 in elementary school, 182 in middle school, and 153 in high school.
Source: Nevada School Districts, 2000-2001.

Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts

TerraNova Examinations

Nevada students in grades four, eight, and ten are assessed in reading, language, mathematics, and science using the TerraNova (CCTB/McGraw-Hill), a norm-referenced examination.[1] See Notes section for discussion of the exam and the Appendix for ranks by district. The scores show:

- At the fourth-grade level, Nevada students performed at the national 50th percentile in reading, scored above the national average in language and math, and scored slightly below the average in science.
- At the eighth-grade level, Nevada students scored at the national 50th percentile in reading, scored above the national average in language and math, and scored below the national average in science.
- At the tenth-grade level, Nevada students performed above the national percentile in all four areas.

TerraNova National Percentile Ranks for Nevada Students Grades 4, 8, and 10: Fall 2001

Grade	*Reading*	*Language*	*Math*	*Science*
Grade 4	50	56	58	49
Grade 8	50	52	52	48
Grade 10	54	55	56	55

Source: Nevada Department of Education, 2001.

High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE)

Six school districts of the 14 that reported HSPE data had more than 1 percent of their seniors with sufficient credits for graduation who were denied a high school diploma for HSPE failure (Storey 5.7, Clark 4.1, Washoe 2.7, Lyon 1.6, Lander 1.4, and Douglas 1.4).[2] The remaining eight counties reported less than 1 percent.[3]

Proportionally, Hispanics and blacks were more likely to have failed the HSPE than other racial groups. Students who failed only one HSPE test were most likely to have failed math.[4]

HSPE Frequency of Fail and Pass Rates Among Nevada 12th Grade Students Enrolled at the End of the School Year by Race/Ethnicity and Gender: 2000-2001

Number of Students with Sufficient Credits to Graduate							
	Race/Ethnicity					*Gender*	
Performance	*NA**	*Asian*	*Black***	*Hispanic*	*White*	*Male*	*Female*
Failed writing only	0	5	2	23	2	17	12
Failed reading only	0	4	4	17	12	21	14
Failed math only	8	17	135	141	188	190	295
Failed >1	6	23	82	112	132	180	176
TOTAL***	14	49	223	293	334	408	497
Number of Students with Insufficient Credits to Graduate							
	Race/Ethnicity					*Gender*	
Performance	*NA**	*Asian*	*Black***	*Hispanic*	*White*	*Male*	*Female*
Failed writing only	0	1	0	12	18	19	12
Failed reading only	0	6	1	11	5	15	8
Failed math only	5	15	51	91	83	122	121
Failed >1	3	51	107	212	265	397	241
Passed all areas	10	42	60	153	368	411	227
TOTAL***	18	115	219	479	739	964	609

*Native American.
**African American.
***Because of the slight differences in reporting styles among school districts, discrepancies in row and column totals exist.
Source: Nevada Department of Education, "Summary of Cumulative HSPE Pass Rates for the Graduating Class of 2001," Draft Report, 2001.

Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts Continued

College-Entrance Examinations

The average verbal and math scores for the class of 2001 on the SAT were 509 and 515, respectively. The corresponding national average scores were 506 and 514.[5]

The percentage of Nevada students taking the ACT and SAT college-entrance exams decreased over the 1999-2000 to 2000-2001 school years. For the 2000-2001 school year 39.0 percent of seniors took the ACT, down from 40.2 percent in 1999-2000. Similarly, 33.0 percent of seniors took the SAT in the 2000-2001 school year, down from 34.0 percent in the 1999-2000 school year.

The class of 2001 earned a composite score of 21.3 on the ACT, which is slightly above the national average composite score of 21.0.[6] The highest possible score was 36.

Nevada High School Performance on ACT and SAT*: 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

ACT & SAT Performance	*1999-2000*	*2000-2001*
Percent of seniors taking ACT**	40.2	39.0
ACT composite average	21.5	21.3
Percent of seniors taking SAT**	34.0	33.0
SAT verbal average	510	509
SAT math average	517	515

*The American College (ACT) exam and the Scholastic Assessment (SAT) exam are college-entrance exams. The ACT is a standardized test which covers English, math, science reasoning, and reading. A composite ACT score is the average score on the four areas. The SAT consists of three math sections, three verbal sections, and one experimental section (not scored). An average SAT score is reported for the verbal and the math sections.
**Includes the juniors who took the tests in the previous year.
Source: Nevada Department of Education, 1999-2001.

College Continuation Rate of Nevada Public High School Graduates Enrolled in UCCSC Institutions by County: 2001

School District	*Enrollment as a Percent of Graduates*	
	2000	*2001*
Carson City	57.5	48.3
Churchill	35.6	39.4
Clark	45.8	41.3
Douglas	44.9	46.9
Elko	36.5	36.4
Esmeralda	-	-
Eureka	40.9	39.1
Humboldt	33.1	30.2
Lander	36.6	17.4
Lincoln	29.6	21.5
Lyon	48.4	46.4
Mineral	19.1	34.5
Nye	31.0	34.5
Pershing	57.4	65.0
Storey	42.1	57.7
Washoe	53.0	57.2
White Pine	26.1	29.8
NEVADA	45.9%	43.8%

Note: "The data are based on the enrollment of graduates without regard to whether or not they are degree-seeking students. No comparable national data exists for this population of enrollees. Nevada high school graduates enrolled at UCCSC institution are students who graduated from high school within 12 months preceding their enrollment at the UCCSN for the year indicated."
Source: University and Community College System of Nevada, Office of Academic and Student Affairs, "Trends in Nevada High School Graduates Attending the UCCSN, 1991-2001." *Information Bulletin*, No. 11, July 25, 2002, pp. 1-2.

Testing, Proficiency, and College-Entrance Efforts Continued

Millennium Scholarships

In 1999, NRS 396.911 created the Millennium Scholarship trust fund, which was initiated by Governor Guinn and approved by Nevada's legislators. The trust fund is administered by the state treasurer. It is derived from the state's share of the settlement from tobacco companies over health-care costs related to smoking. The University and Community College System of Nevada (UCCSN) Board of Regents adopted policy guidelines for the administration of the scholarship.

Nevada's high school students are eligible for the Millennium Scholarship if they meet the following conditions:[7]

- Graduation with a diploma from a public or private high school in Nevada after May 1, 2000 or later;
- Completion of high school with at least a 3.0 grade-point average, on a 4.0 grading scale, using all high school credit-granting courses;
- Passing all areas of the Nevada HSPE;
- State of Nevada resident for at least two years of high school.

Each eligible student receives an award packet for identification as a potential Millennium Scholarship recipient.[8] To receive the benefits, students must enroll in a public institution of higher learning in Nevada. However, receiving a Millennium Scholarship does not guarantee admission to the institutions, nor does it guarantee admission to all programs at the universities or community colleges.[9]

Number of Eligible Students for the Millennium Scholarship by School District: Fall 2002

School District	*Number Eligible for Scholarship*
Carson City	256
Churchill	141
Clark	4,843
Douglas	208
Elko	263
Esmeralda*	NA
Eureka	15
Humboldt	97
Lander	45
Lincoln	36
Lyon	180
Mineral	29
Nye	129
Pershing	21
Storey	17
Washoe	1,613
White Pine	63
TOTAL	7,956

Note: NA = Not Applicable.
*Esmeralda County students attend neighboring Nye County high schools. The actual number of Esmeralda County students eligible for the Millennium Scholarship is not available.
Source: Office of the State Treasurer, Millennium Scholarship, 2002.

High School Dropout and Graduation Information

Nevada

Nevada's dropout rate for grades 9 through 12 decreased from 6.1 in 1999-2000 to 5.0 percent in 2000-2001. The graduation rate (high school, adjusted, and adult diploma count divided by a total 12th-grade enrollment count) increased from 75.9 percent in 1999-2000 to 77.2 percent in 2000-2001. Of the racial/ethnic categories, Hispanics had the highest percentage of high school dropouts followed by blacks, Native Americans/Alaskan Natives, Asians/Pacific Islanders, and whites.[1] Additionally, 12th graders were more likely to leave school than students in grades 9 through 11; and, males were more likely to dropout than were females.[2]

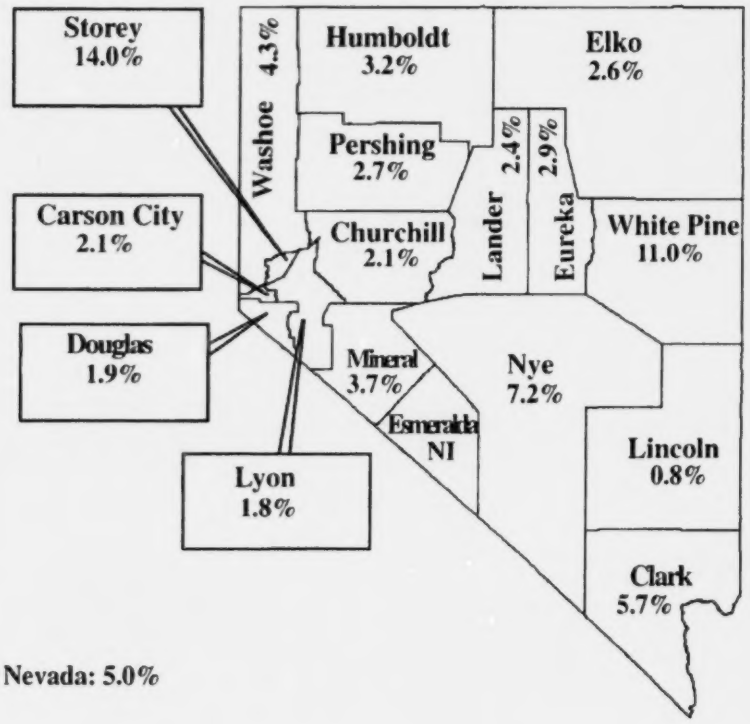
Counties

Among the 17 counties in Nevada, the percentage of students in grades 9 to 12 who dropped out of school during the 2000-2001 school year ranged from a low of 0.8 in Lincoln County to a high of 14.0 in Storey County. Clark County, the state's largest school district with 59,123 students enrolled in high school, and Washoe County, the state's second-largest school district with 14,954 students, saw their dropout rate decrease by 1.2 percent over the previous year. Clark County's decrease is partially attributed to the Secondary Success Programs. Through these programs, students can, for example; (1) acquire child-care services for their infants and toddlers, (2) interact with trained volunteers who help them make "sound choices about life" through the Choices Program, (3) take before- or after-school, make-up classes through the Credit Deficient Program, and (4) earn credit through correspondence classes, credit by examination, and educational travel.[3]

Definition

Dropouts are students who had withdrawn from school after the first day of fall enrollment, or who had completed the previous school year, but did not return for the start of the new school year.[4]

Nevada Dropout Rate by County: 2000-2001



Nevada: 5.0%

NI = No Instruction. Esmeralda County School District does not provide instruction in grades 9-12.

Source: Nevada Department of Education, 2000-2001.

High School Dropout and Graduation Information Continued

State Superintendent of public instruction, Jack McLaughlin, praises the public schools in an interview for the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*: "I applaud the efforts that the Nevada public schools have made in reducing the dropout rate" . . . . "The future demands a skilled work force. Completing a high school education is essential for the 21st century, not only for the workers' well-being, but also our state's economic progress."[5]

Significant Factors

The National Center for Education Statistics data revealed that "in October 1999, five out of every 100 young adults enrolled in high school in October 1998 had left high school without successfully completing a high school program."[6] Research consistently shows that the level of education significantly affects earnings. In a recent study, Day and Newberger, using CPS earning data from 1997 to 1999, found a positive relationship between earnings and educational level. High school dropouts' earnings were $18,900, high school graduates $25,900, college graduates $45,400, and workers with professional degrees $99,300. The same pattern held for work-life earnings. Work-life earnings for full-time, year-round workers without a high school diploma was $1 million, and with a high school degree $1.2 million, BS degree $2.1 million, MS degree $2.5 million, PhD $3.4 million, and professional degree $4.4 million.[7]

Dropping out of high school not only affects present and future earnings, but it can also affect other aspects of an individual's life, such as mental health. Researchers at the University of Boston, through interviews with graduates in dropouts of Boston-area high schools, found that dropouts were "more likely to be depressed than high school graduates during their early adult years."[8]

The high dropout rate of minorities, in particular Hispanics, is a major concern. National statistics, as reported by the U.S. Census, parallel Nevada's statistics–Hispanics have the highest dropout rate of all the racial/ethnic groups. Not surprisingly, researchers have sought to identify factors which contribute to or are correlated with the high dropout rates. The National Center for Education Statistics attributes, at least partially, the high dropout rate of Hispanics to the "relative recency" of migration among Hispanics.[9] Based on CPS data, the Center concluded that "in 1997, a greater percentage of Hispanics than non-Hispanics ages 16-24 were born outside the United States. Among this group, the dropout rate (39 percent) was higher than it was among first- and later-generation Hispanics (15 and 18 percent, respectively)."[10]

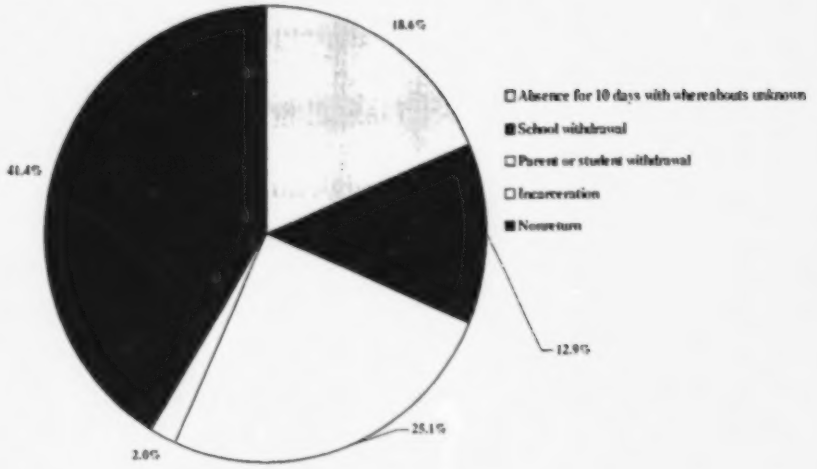
School alienation has also been associated with Hispanics dropping out of school. Wyman found that Mexican-American adolescents were more likely to perceive teacher-ethnic bias (measured as the degree to which teachers liked Spanish or Mexican-American students) than white adolescents, suggesting that perceptions of biases were correlated with dropping out.[11] As such, Mexican-American adolescents feel more alienated from school than whites. In another study of 14 school districts in Florida, Griffin concluded that blacks and Hispanics were more likely to show a higher level of detachment from academics compared to whites and Asians.[12]

High School Dropout and Graduation Information Continued

Strategies to reduce the dropout rates are prevalent in the dropout literature. The National Dropout Prevention Detention Center/ Network identified 15 strategies which have proven successful in reducing the dropout rate.[13] The strategies fall under four categories: (1) early intervention, such as family involvement; (2) basic course strategies, such as mentoring/tutoring; (3) making the most of instruction, such as individualized instruction; and (4) making the most of the wider school community, such as community collaboration. Druian and Butler suggest targeting at-risk youth and recommend applying "effective schooling practices to at-risk youth to keep them from dropping out of school, including, high expectations for all, clear, achievable goals; clear rules for behavior, fairly enforced; effect of instruction in classroom management; careful monitoring of student progress; and emphasis that school is a place for learning."[14]

According to the *2001 State of Nevada Hispanic Leadership Summit Report*, working with at-risk students at a young age will help contribute to the academic success of Hispanic youth, who are at an educational disadvantage compared to whites due to a greater likelihood of living in poverty and lower levels of parental education.[15] Specifically, the report states: "The problems Hispanic students in Nevada face in junior and senior high school are rooted in elementary school and without an early identification and intervention system, their problems escalate beyond remediation. It is imperative, therefore, that at-risk Hispanic students in Nevada school be identified and worked with prior to their entering the third grade in order that problems of poor educational preparation can be addressed."[16]

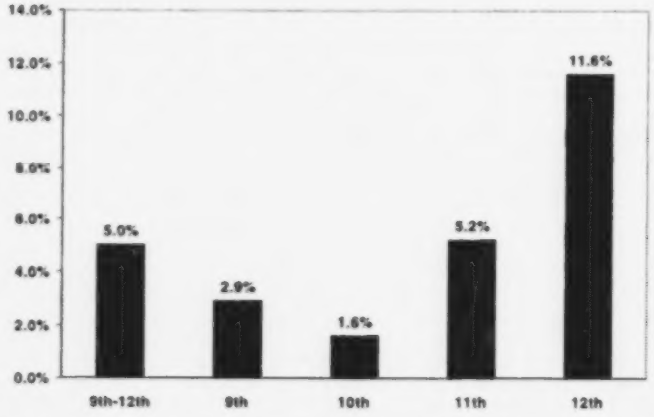
Nevada Dropouts by Withdrawal Category: 2000-2001



Note: School Withdrawal = Withdrawal at the request of the school.
Parent of Student Withdrawal = Withdrawal at the request of the student or the student's parent/guardian.
Nonreturn = This is also known as a summer dropout. The student has completed the previous school year, but did not return to school by December 1 of the current year.
Source: *Nevada Public School Dropouts: School Year 2000-2001*. Nevada Department of Education.

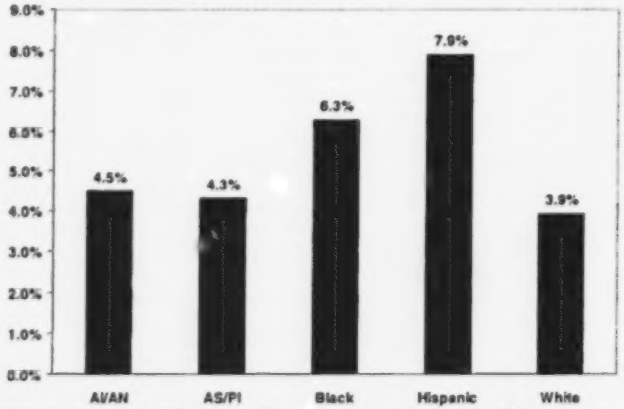
High School Dropout and Graduation Information Continued

Dropout Rates by Grade: 2000-2001



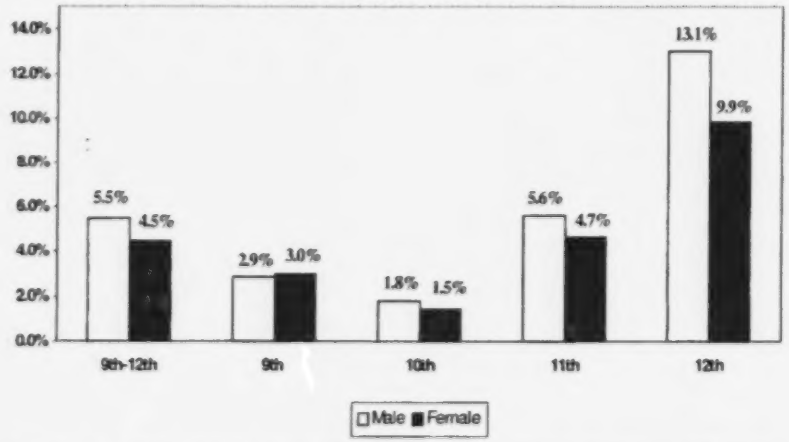
Source: *Nevada Public School Dropouts: School Year 2000-2001*. Nevada Department of Education.

Dropout Rates by Racial/Ethnic Category: 2000-2001



Source: *Nevada Public School Dropouts: School Year 2000-2001*, Nevada Department of Education.

Dropout Rates by Gender: 2000-2001



Source: *Nevada Public School Dropouts: School Year 2000-2001*. Nevada Department of Education.

Transiency

Nevada

Approximately one-third of Nevada students were not enrolled for the entire 2000-2001 school year.

Counties

Clark County had the highest transiency rate at 36.0 percent, Eureka County the lowest at 14.0 percent.

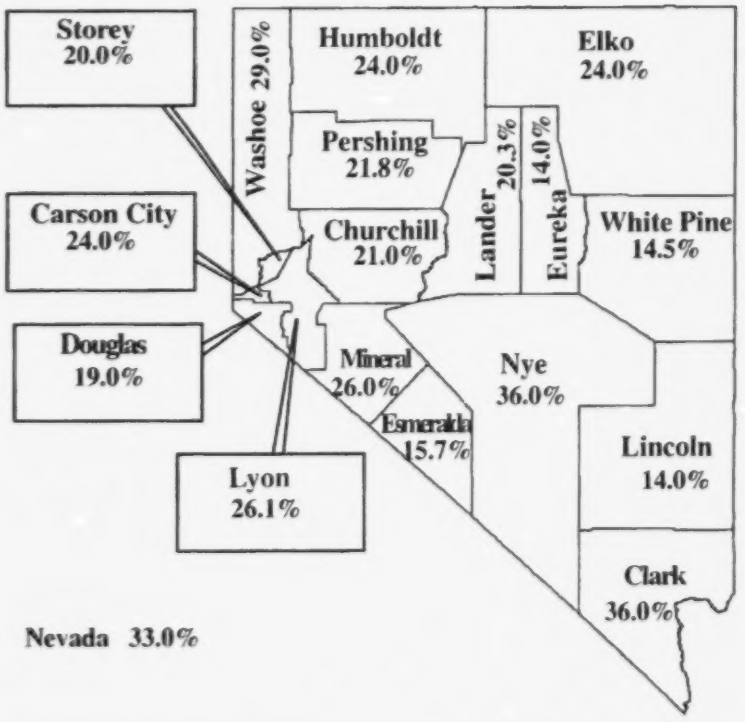
Significant Factors

Students may not be enrolled in school for the entire school year for a number of reasons, including moving. Student mobility may be a result of residential changes and school factors, such as "overcrowding, class size reduction, suspension and expulsion policies, and the general academic and social climate."[1] Data from the 2000 CPS Survey revealed that during the previous year more than 13 million children ages 1 to 19 moved. Breaking it down by age groups, 23.3, 18.1, and 15.3 percents, respectively, of children and youth ages 1-4, 5-9, and 10-19 moved.[2] Moving from one school to another may have negative effects on students' school performance. Research has shown that student mobility can affect grade retention and dropping out of school. Researchers' analysis of data from the National Education Longitudinal Study showed that students who had changed schools even once while in grades 8-12 were less likely to graduate from high school than students who had remained stable.[3] Researchers have attributed some of the difference in school performance of those who move and those who don't to the difference between the groups prior to the move. One study found that "children who move frequently are more likely to live in poor families and are less likely to live with both biological parents."[4]

Definition

Transiency Rate is the percentage of students who are not enrolled in the school for the entire school year.

Transiency Rate: 2000-2001



Note: Carson City and Churchill counties' percentages are averaged ratios based on schoolwide data.
Source: Nevada Department of Education, *Research Bulletin*, Volume 43, 2000-2001.

Teens Not in School and Not Working

Nevada

According to the 2000 Census, 12.6 percent of teens ages 16 to 19 in Nevada were not in school and not working. The corresponding national percentage was 9.0.

Counties

The counties varied significantly on the indicator. Clark County reported a high with 14.2 percent and Storey a low with 0 (although there were only 161 persons in this age group).

Significant Factors

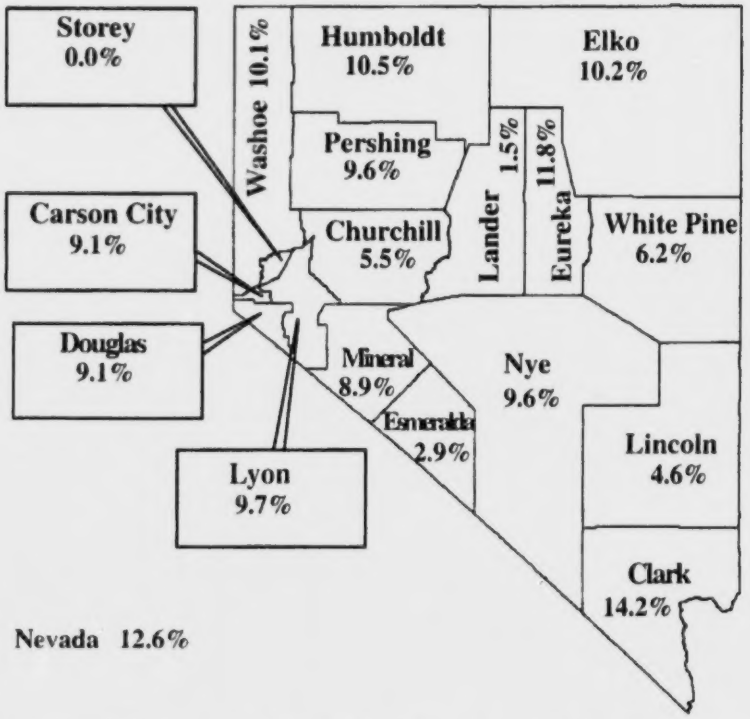
Young adults who spend a large portion of their young adult lives not in school, not in the military, or not working, in other words, idle or disconnected, may have lower earnings and less stable employment than persons in their late twenties who stayed in school or had stable employment.[1] They are more likely to experience poverty and are less likely to marry than their nonidle counterparts. Youthful disconnection is a concern for society, "both for its personal and its societal consequences."[2]

Detachment from work and school is more common among black, non-Hispanic and Hispanic youth than white, non-Hispanic youth, according to 2001 CPS data.[3] Females are more likely to be detached than males. And, older youth 18 to 19 are more likely to be detached than youth 16 to 17 years of age. The percentage of teens nationally not in school and not working has declined since 1991 when it was 11 percent.

Definition

The Percent of Teens Not in School and Not Working reflects the percentage of teenagers between the ages of 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school (full time or part time), are not in the labor force, are not in the military, and are unemployed.

Percent of Teens Not in School and Not Working (Ages 16 to 19): 2000



Source: CBER Calculations from U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing. Summary File 3, (Table P38), 2000.

Profile of Children and Youth Enrolled in Special Education

Nevada

On December 1, 2001, the number of children ages 3 to 21 enrolled in special education in Nevada was 38,160. The most frequent disability among Nevada's students was "learning disability" (56.9 percent of children in special education). Less than 50 percent of the students ages 17 to 19, exiting special education received a regular diploma (20.1 percent) or an adjusted diploma or certificate (27.8 percent). Approximately 21 percent (557 students) of high school dropouts were special education students.

Counties

Eureka, Storey, and Pershing counties had the highest percentage of students in special education.

Significant Factors

The *Twenty-third Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of the Individual with Disabilities Act* reveals that in 1998-1999, 57.4 percent of students, 14 years of age and older with disabilities, graduated from high school, up from 55.4 percent in 1997-1998.[1] The dropout rate in 1998-1999, 28.9 percent, was a decrease over the 1997-1998 rate of 31 percent. The report also noted that dropout rates varied by disability and race. Students with autism were the least likely to dropout; whereas, students with emotional and behavioral disorders were the most likely to dropout. Native Americans/Alaskan Natives had the highest dropout rate (44.0 percent), followed by blacks (33.7 percent), Hispanics (32.3 percent), whites (26.9 percent), and Asians/Pacific Islanders (18.8 percent).

Definition

"'Special education' means instruction designed to meet the unique needs of a pupil with a disability."[2]

Children and Youth Enrolled in Special Education (Ages 3-21): December 1, 2001

School District	*Total Number of Students*	*Total Number of Students with Disabilities*	*Percent of Students in Special Education*
Carson City	8,431	1,199	14.2
Churchill	4,808	662	13.8
Clark	231,655	24,497	10.6
Douglas	7,033	783	11.1
Elko	10,100	1,061	10.5
Esmeralda	107	8	7.5
Eureka	305	68	22.3
Humboldt	3,805	542	14.2
Lander	1,449	177	12.2
Lincoln*	-	62	-
Lyon	6,666	940	14.1
Mineral	872	174	19.9
Nye	5,290	887	16.8
Pershing	900	189	21.0
Storey	445	96	21.6
Washoe	56,268	6,532	11.6
White Pine	1,554	250	16.1
Nevada Youth Training Center	-	23	-
Caliente Youth Center	-	10	-
NEVADA	-	38,160	-

*Caliente Youth Center was disaggregated from the Lincoln School District, therefore the percentage of students in special education was not calculated.

Source: "Student Bulletin and Licensed Personnel Information," *Research Bulletin*, Vol. 43, March 2002.

Profile of Children and Youth Enrolled in Special Education Continued

Enrollment of Special Education Students by Top Five Primary Disability Categories: December 1, 2001

School District	*Learning Disabled*	*Speech/Language Handicapped*	*Developmentally Delayed*	*Emotionally Disabled*	*Mentally Handicapped*
Carson City	700	271	41	50	42
Churchill	386	102	63	38	24
Clark	13,743	4,520	1,437	1,283	1,177
Douglas	443	186	33	19	32
Elko	669	243	18	7	61
Esmeralda	5	1	1	0	0
Eureka	45	13	5	0	0
Humboldt	366	76	55	7	17
Lander	105	30	24	0	7
Lincoln	42	3	9	8	6
Lyon	489	180	86	21	26
Mineral	92	46	12	2	5
Nye	571	85	73	69	31
Pershing	133	15	20	4	8
Storey	71	14	2	5	1
Washoe	3,703	869	412	300	359
White Pine	157	57	15	0	9
NEVADA	21,733	6,711	2,306	1,822	1,805

Source: "Student Bulletin and Licensed Personnel Information," *Research Bulletin*, Vol. 43, March 2002.

Numbers and Percentages of Special Education Students Ages 17, 18, and 19 Exiting Special Education: 2000-2001

Special Education Students	*Number*	*Percent*
Received regular education diploma	447	20.1
Received adjusted diploma or certificate	619	27.8
Returned to regular education (no longer eligible)	75	3.4
Moved (known to be continuing education)	506	22.7
Moved (not known to be continuing education)	158	7.1
Dropped out of school	418	18.8
Died	3	0.1
TOTAL	2,226	100.0

Source: Nevada Department of Education, 2000-2001.

Child and Youth
Safety/Welfare

Infant Mortality

Nevada

Between 1999 and 2001, the Infant Mortality Rate in Nevada was 6.2. Of the 90,269 babies born during this period, 563 infants died before they reached their first birthday. According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2002*, the 1999 rate for the U.S. was 7.1.[1]

Counties

Among the 14 counties in Nevada for which statistically reliable rates could be calculated, the Infant Mortality Rate ranged from a low of 0 in Esmeralda, Eureka, Lincoln, and Pershing counties to a high of 9.7 in Nye County.

Significant Factors

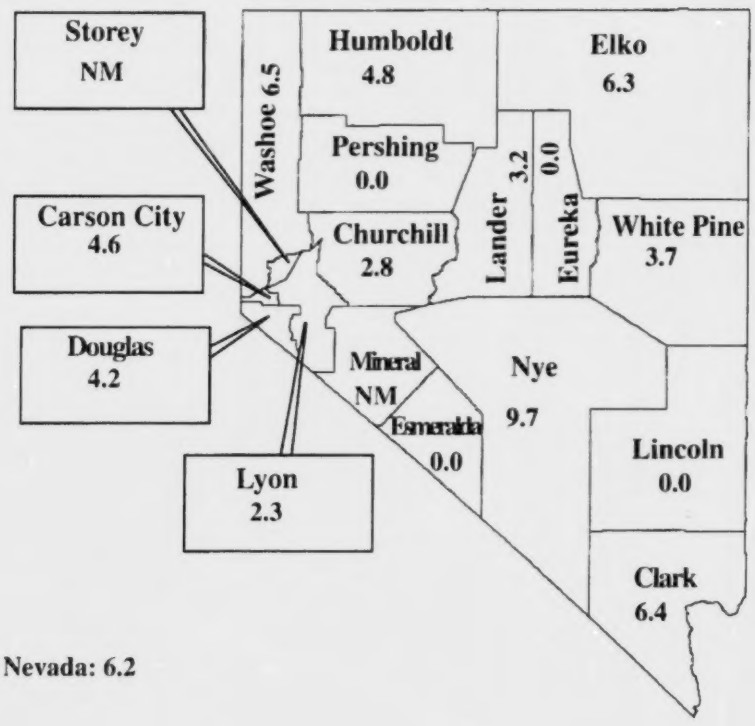
In 2000, the three major causes of infant mortality in the United States were congenital malformations, low birthweight, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).[2] Together these three factors accounted for 45 percent of all infant deaths.

The age of a mother directly affects the survival of her offspring. An analysis of 1996 and 1997 United States Linked Birth/Infant Deaths revealed that healthy firstborn infants born to mothers 15 years old and younger were at greater risk of dying before their first birthday than their counterparts born to older mothers.[3] Since biologic factors such as low birthweight were adjusted for, the researchers attributed the increased risk to "unmeasured social factors," such as abuse and neglect. Comparing the infant death data by age of the mothers, the researchers found that neglect and abuse was more likely to be the cause of death of infants born to younger mothers age 15 and younger than infants born to mothers 23 to 29 (2 deaths per 1,000 babies versus 0.3 deaths per 1,000 babies).[4]

Definition

The Infant Mortality Rate measures the number of babies who die during their first year of life per 1,000 live births. The data are reported by county of residence, rather than place of death.

Infant Mortality Rate: 1999-2001
(Per 1,000 live births)



Nevada: 6.2

Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Calculated rates based on very small numbers are not statistically reliable.
Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 1999-2001.

Nevada KIDS COUNT
Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada Las Vegas
http://kidscount.unlv.edu

Child Deaths

Nevada

Between 1999 and 2001, the Child Death Rate in Nevada was 23.0 per 100,000 children. During this period, 276 children between the ages of 1 and 14 died in Nevada. According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2002*, the 1999 Child Death Rate in the U.S. was 24 per 100,000 children between the ages of 1 and 14.[1]

Causes of Child Death (Ages 1-14) in Nevada: 1999-2001

Region	Accidents	Cancer	Homicide	Diseases of the Heart	Other	Total
Clark County	63	16	13	9	84	185
Washoe County	22	6	1	3	19	51
Rest of State	24	2	3	0	11	40
NEVADA	109	24	17	12	114	276

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division; Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2002.

Counties

The Child Death Rate ranged from a low of 0 in Esmeralda, Eureka, Lander, and Mineral counties to a high of 34.3 in Nye County. Statistically reliable rates could not be calculated for Lincoln and Storey counties due to small numbers.

Significant Factors

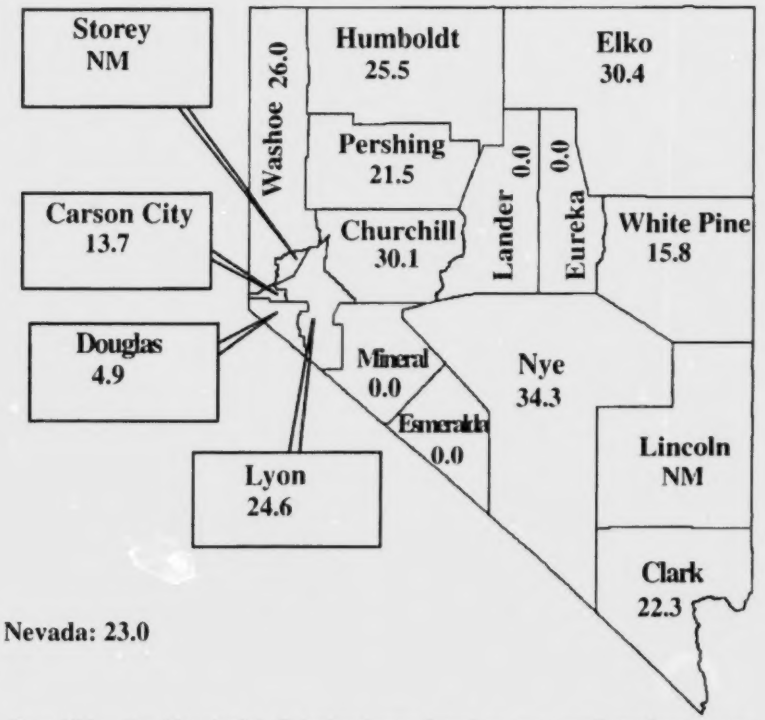
The child death rate reflects several factors including the physical health of children, the dangers to which they are exposed in their environment, and the level of supervision they receive. Factors contributing to a child's risk of injury may include lack of education, young maternal age, multiple siblings, dilapidated housing, and unsafe play areas.[2]

In 2000, the leading cause of death for U.S. children ages 1-4 and 5-14 was accidents (unintentional injury).[3]

Definition

The Child Death Rate is the number of deaths (from all causes) of children between the ages of 1 and 14, per 100,000 children. The data are reported by the child's county of residence, rather than by where the death occurred.

Child Death Rate: 1999-2001
(Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14)



Nevada: 23.0

Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Calculated rates based on very small numbers are not statistically reliable.
Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 1999-2001.

Teen Violent Deaths

Nevada

Nevada's Teen Violent Death Rate from 1999 to 2001 was 51.3 deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15 to 19. During this period, 203 teens died as a result of homicide, suicide, and accident. According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2002*, the 1999 rate for the U.S. was 53 per 100,000.[1]

Counties

Five counties had a Teen Violent Death Rate of 0: Esmeralda, Eureka, Lincoln, Mineral, and Storey. Three counties had a Teen Violent Death Rate higher than the state rate of 51.3: Churchill, Elko, and Nye.

Significant Factors

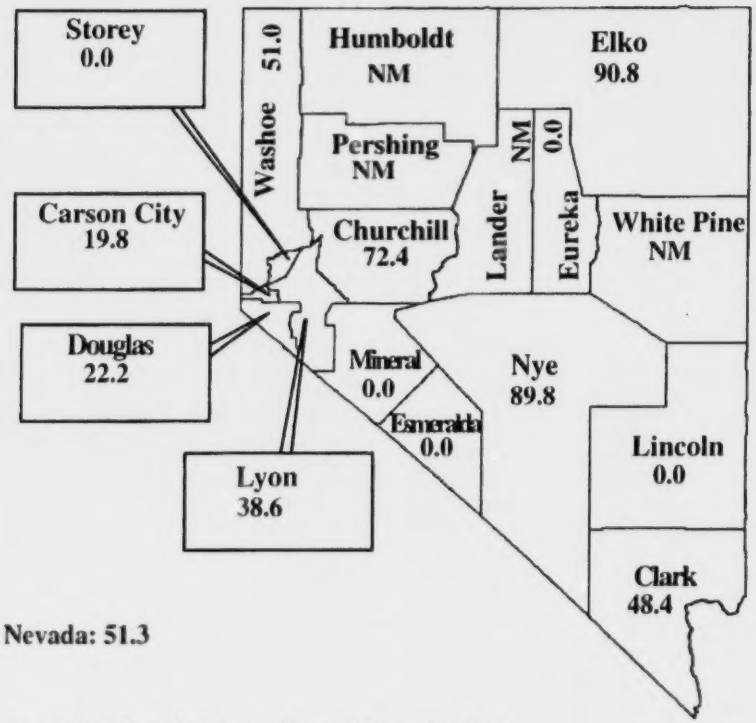
In 1999, 3,365 persons under age 20 died from a firearm injury in the U.S.[2] Gun homicides, gun suicides, and accidental shootings accounted for 59, 32, and 6 percents, respectively, of gun deaths. The risk of dying from a firearm injury increases if a person is 17 to 19 years of age, and is male.[3] Black and Hispanic youth are more likely to die from firearm homicides than are non-Hispanic whites; whereas, non-Hispanic whites are more likely to die in suicides than Hispanics or blacks.[4] Children and youth who reside in a core metropolitan county (more than one million residents and contains a large central city) are more likely to die of firearm injuries than those who do not.[5]

The economic cost of youth gun violence in the U.S. is high. In 1998, Cook and Ludwig assessed 1,200 adults' willingness to pay (WTP) for a new program in their state to reduce gun deaths and

Definition

The Teen Violent Death Rate is the number of deaths from suicide, homicide, accidents, and unclassified deaths, per 100,000 teens, ages 15 to 19. The data are reported by the youth's county of residence, rather than by where the death occurred.

Teen Violent Death Rate: 1999-2001*
(Deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19)



Nevada: 51.3

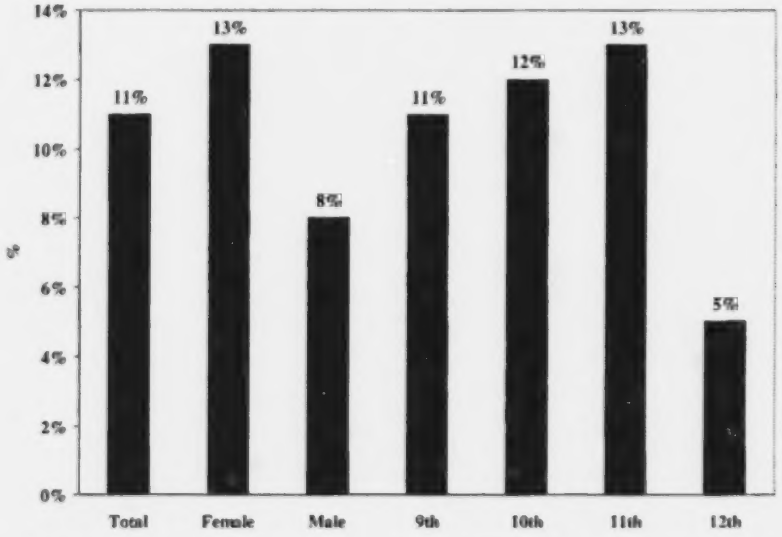
*Teen Violent Deaths includes homicides, suicides, and accidents.
NM = Not Meaningful.
Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 1999-2001.

Teen Violent Deaths Continued

alleged gun dealers, and reduce gun injuries by 30 percent, making it harder for people in particular, young people, to obtain guns.[6] They found that American households were WTP $239 in extra taxes to fund such a program. Over 75 percent were WTP $50 or more taxes a year.

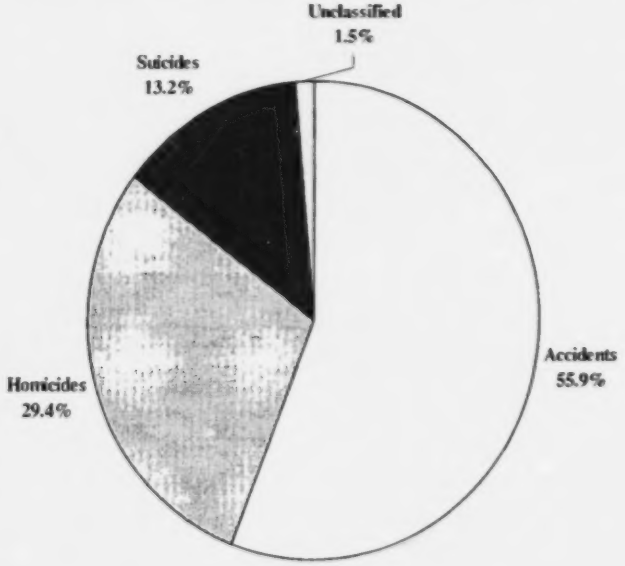
In a special issue on children, youth, and gun violence in *The Future of Children*, Reich, Culross, and Behrman recommend that "the federal and state governments, working in partnership with local communities and parents, should adopt a unified, comprehensive strategy for reducing youth gun violence in the United States."[7] Strategies should include reducing children's unsupervised exposure to guns, engaging communities to reduce youth gun violence, strengthening law enforcement against youth gun violence, changing the design of guns, and limiting the flow of illegal guns to youth.

Percentage of Nevada High School Students Who Actually Attempted Suicide One or More Times during the Past 12 Months by Gender and Grade: 2001



Source: Nevada Department of Education, Office of School Health, Safety, and Nutrition. *Nevada Youth Risk Behavior Survey Report 2001.*

Teen Violent Deaths in Nevada by Cause: 2001



Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2001.

Child Abuse and Neglect

Nevada

From 2000 to 2001, Nevada saw a 16.7 percent decrease in the number of substantiated child-abuse and neglect reports. See table in next column.

Of the 13,325 total reports of suspected child abuse and neglect received, 2,865 or 21.5 percent were substantiated. (See page 61.) The percentage of substantiated child-abuse reports received in 2001 ranged from 0 in Esmeralda County to 25.1 in Washoe County. Almost 13 percent of the total reports received in the rural counties were substantiated.

The number of child-abuse and neglect reports increased by 0.9 percent in Nevada from 2000 to 2001. Five counties (Clark, Eureka, Lincoln, Nye, and White Pine) saw increases in the number of reports; and the remaining counties saw a decrease. Nye County experienced the largest increase (201.4 percent) in the number of total reports over the one-year period. Refer to page 62.

Significant Factors

Factors contributing to child abuse and neglect include poverty, lack of or limited social services, high crime rate, high unemployment rate, low self-esteem, emotional immaturity, personal history of physical or sexual abuse as a child, lack of parenting skills, teenage parents, and unwanted pregnancy.[1]

Definition

"Abuse or neglect" of a child means: physical or mental injury of a non-accidental nature; sexual abuse or sexual exploitation; or negligent treatment or maltreatment caused or allowed by a person responsible for his welfare under circumstances which indicate that the child's health or welfare is harmed or threatened with harm. Child abuse is investigated by child protective service (CPS) agencies."[2]

Types of Child-Abuse and Neglect Reports

Substantiated: "The reported abusive or neglectful situation/incident is confirmed through the investigation/assessment or court process."
Unsubstantiated: "The abusive or neglectful situation was not confirmed through the investigation."
Unknown: "The receiving/investigating agency was unable to locate the alleged perpetrator and/or interview the child, there was insufficient information or evidence, or the information was too old to pursue. In some instances, these reports are false and malicious. Clark County does not use the term 'unknown' as a disposition. Rather 'unable to locate' (cases where the victim, family, or others cannot be located to complete an investigation) is used."[3]

Nevada Child-Abuse and Neglect Report Trends: 2000-2001

Type of Report	*2000*	*2001*	*Change Percent*
Unknown	620	448	-27.7
Unsubstantiated	8,736	10,012	+14.6
Substantiated	3,441	2,865	-16.7
TOTAL	12,797	13,325	+4.1

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services, *Child Abuse and Neglect Statistics 2001.*

Child Abuse and Neglect Continued

Number of Child-Abuse and Neglect Reports by County/Region: 2001
(Ages 17 and under)

County	*Total Reports*	*Unknown*	*Unsubstantiated*	*Substantiated*	*Substantiated Child Abuse Reports as a Percent of Total Reports**
		Number	*Number*	*Number*	*Percent*
Carson City	525	7	436	82	15.6
Churchill	301	6	254	41	13.6
Clark	8,316	248	6,177	1,891	22.7
Douglas	207	3	177	27	13.0
Elko	298	9	253	36	12.1
Esmeralda	6	0	6	0	0.0
Eureka	9	1	6	2	22.2
Humboldt	106	3	94	9	8.5
Lander	64	5	55	4	6.3
Lincoln	27	1	22	4	14.8
Lyon	291	16	241	34	11.7
Mineral	45	1	35	9	20.0
Nye	211	6	188	17	8.1
Pershing	38	1	33	4	10.5
Storey	20	1	17	2	10.0
Washoe	2,740	134	1,919	687	25.1
White Pine	121	6	99	16	13.2
Rural NV**	2,269	66	1,916	287	12.6
NEVADA	13,325	448	10,012	2,865	21.5

*Percentages based on small numbers should be used with caution.

**All counties except Clark and Washoe.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services, *Child Abuse and Neglect Statistics 2001.*

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Child Abuse and Neglect Continued

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Increases/Decreases in Child-Abuse and Neglect Reports by County: 2000-2001

County	2000	2001	Difference	Percent (+/-)
Carson City	542	525	-17	-3.1
Churchill	359	301	-58	-16.2
Clark	7,650	8,316	666	+8.7
Douglas	241	207	-34	-14.1
Elko	331	298	-33	-10.0
Esmeralda	12	6	-6	-50.0
Eureka	5	9	4	+80.0
Humboldt	127	106	-21	-16.5
Lander	81	64	-17	-21.0
Lincoln	22	27	5	+22.7
Lyon	353	291	-62	-17.6
Mineral	60	45	-15	-25.0
Nye	70	211	141	+201.4
Pershing	87	38	-49	-56.3
Storey	30	20	-10	-33.3
Washoe	2,745	2,740	-5	-0.2
White Pine	82	121	39	+47.6
Rural NV*	2,402	2,269	-133	-5.5
NEVADA	12,797	13,325	-120	-0.9

*All counties excluding Clark and Washoe.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services, *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2001.*

Nevada Child-Abuse and Neglect Substantiated Cases: 2001 (Percent and type of child maltreatment)

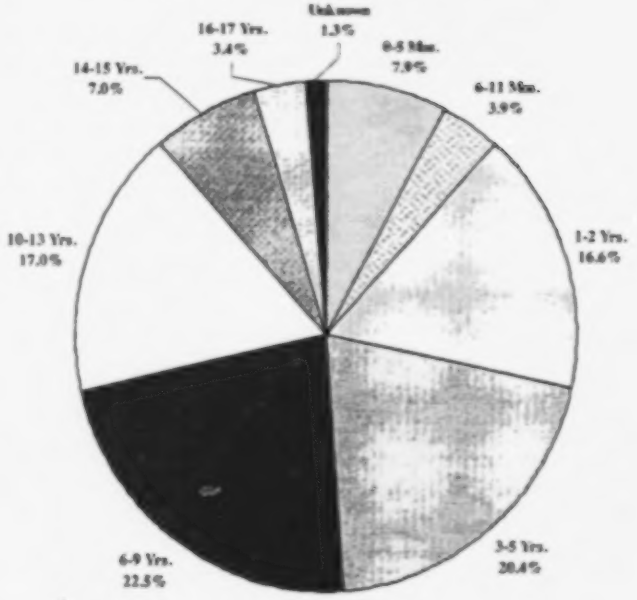
Type of Maltreatment	Nevada Total Incidents Percent	Clark County Total Incidents Percent	Washoe County Total Incidents Percent	Rural Nevada Total Incidents Percent
Other	42.3	51.8	0.6	0.6
Physical neglect	15.8	8.7	50.2	41.6
Physical abuse	15.1	14.3	17.3	20.1
Lack of supervision	13.5	12.2	21.4	15.6
Sex abuse/Exploitation	4.2	4.1	3.2	7.1
Educational neglect	3.0	3.3	1.0	3.4
Abandonment	2.4	2.0	4.1	3.7
Emotional abuse/Neglect	2.0	2.0	0.3	4.2
Medical neglect	1.7	1.5	1.7	3.4
Fatal	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS	5,324	4,340	631	353

Note: Reports frequently include multiple types of maltreatment and more than a single incident.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services, *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2001.*

Child Abuse and Neglect Continued

Nevada Child-Abuse and Neglect Statistics by Age of Victim: 2001



Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services. *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2001.*

Family Stress Factors: 2001

Factor	*Factors Number*	*Total Factors Percent*	*Total Reports* Percent*
Parents cannot cope	2,050	9.5	16.1
Alcohol/Drug dependency	1,852	8.6	14.6
Insufficient income	1,355	6.3	10.7
Marital problems	1,305	6.0	10.3
Transience	1,121	5.2	8.8
Job-related problem	1,087	5.0	8.5
New baby/Pregnancy	988	4.6	7.8
Domestic violence	749	3.5	5.9
Health problem child	733	3.4	5.8
Health problem caretaker	569	2.6	4.5
Mismanaged income	394	1.8	3.1
Social isolation	369	1.7	2.9
Family violence	333	1.5	2.6
Mentally retarded child	154	0.7	1.2
Mentally retarded caretaker	150	0.7	1.2
Inadequate housing	99	0.5	0.8
Limited intellectual	84	0.4	0.7
None/Unknown	2,557	11.8	20.1
Other stress factors	5,670	26.2	44.6
TOTAL	21,619	100.0	

*More than one factor may be reported in a case finding and, as a result, the number of factors does not reflect the total number of open reports, nor the number of children.
Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services. *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2001.*

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Child Abuse and Neglect Continued

Nevada Reporters of Child Abuse/Neglect: 2001

Source	*Substantiated*	*Unsubstantiated*	*Unknown*	*Total*	*Annual Percent*
School personnel	339	2,148	34	2,521	19.9
Law-enforcement personnel	623	993	52	1,668	13.1
Friend/Neighbor	167	1,289	102	1,558	12.3
Parent/Caretaker	100	890	39	1,029	8.1
Medical personnel	307	674	22	1,003	7.9
Other relative	148	803	46	997	7.9
Social-service personnel	179	579	50	808	6.4
Anonymous	40	361	23	424	3.3
Mental-health personnel	42	342	6	390	3.1
Child-care provider	33	186	8	227	1.8
Victim	10	66	2	78	0.6
Juvenile probation	9	40	2	51	0.4
Clergy	5	8	0	13	0.1
Substitute-care provider	3	9	0	12	0.1
Coroner/Medical examiner	2	1	0	3	0.0
Alleged perpetrator	1	0	0	1	0.0
Other	755	1,115	38	1,908	15.0
TOTAL	2,763	9,504	424	12,691	100.0

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources. Division of Child and Family Services, *Nevada Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics 2001.*

Children and Domestic Violence

Nevada

There are 15 shelters and advocacy programs in Nevada that offer services for victims of domestic violence and their families. Services include 24-hour hotlines, peer counseling, advocacy, emergency food, clothing, and shelter. In 2001, the 15 domestic-violence agencies provided services to 13,894 Nevada children; of these 1,988 children spent time in domestic-violence shelters.

Based on police reports from cities and towns in Nevada between January 1, 2001, and December 31, 2001, children were present during 12,487 (54 percent) of the 22,971 reported cases of domestic violence.[1] These data underrepresent the number of incidents of domestic violence in which a child was present because (1) police reports may not be fully completed in all cases, and (2) not all cases of domestic violence are reported. These data underestimate the total number of children who experienced domestic violence in their homes, since more than one child may have been present at the incident.

Significant Factors

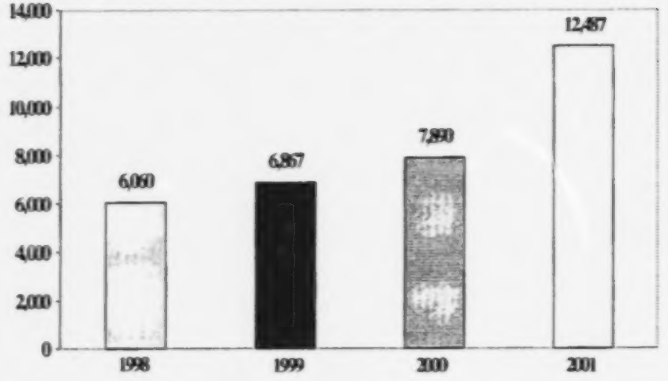
Domestic violence is a serious social issue that affects all communities and cuts across racial, ethnic, and economic lines.[2] Children who experience adult domestic violence in their homes suffer trauma even if they, themselves, are not physically harmed. Children may experience violent events in the home in several ways. They may witness their mother being abused, hear their mother's cries or a batterer's threats, and/or observe the results of a violent event through their mother's injuries or broken furniture.[3]

Definition

Children and Domestic Violence is the percentage of reported domestic violence incidents in which children under age 18 were present in the home. The data are based on police reports of domestic violence in 2000. Domestic violence is the use of physical force, or threat of force, against a current or former partner in an intimate relationship, resulting in fear and emotional and/or physical suffering.

Note: Text provided by Sue Meuschke of the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (1-800-230-1955).

Number of Domestic Violence Cases with Children Present in Nevada: 1998-2001



Source: Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety. *2001 Crime and Justice in Nevada.*

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Children and Domestic Violence Continued

Domestic Violence Incidents with Children Present, Nevada: 2001

Contributing Agency	*Total Number of Domestic Violence Incident Reports*	*Total Number of Incidents in Which a Child Was Present*	*% of Incidents with Children Present*
Carson SO	413	100	24
Churchill County:			
Churchill SO	75	48	64
Fallon PD	73	73	100
Clark County:			
Boulder PD	232	122	53
Clark Co. Schools PD	11	6	55
Henderson	1,597	834	52
LV Metro PD	14,357	7,017	49
Mesquite	54	43	80
North LV PD	1,641	1,002	61
UNLV PD	4	0	0
Douglas County:			
Douglas SO	256	185	72
Elko County:			
Elko SO	19	13	68
Carlin PD	149	149	100
Elko PD	186	71	38
Wells PD	0	0	0
Wendover PD	61	32	52
Esmeralda County:			
Esmeralda SO	0	0	0
Eureka County:			
Eureka SO	6	6	100
Humboldt County:			
Humboldt SO	46	46	100
Winnemucca PD	61	27	44
Lander County:			
Lander SO	65	38	58
Lincoln County:			
Lincoln SO	7	6	86
Lyon County:			
Lyon SO	233	215	92
Yerington PD	7	5	71
Mineral County:			
Mineral SO	56	45	80
Nye County:			
Nye SO	238	195	82
Pershing County:			
Pershing SO	12	3	25
Lovelock PD	25	25	100
Storey County:			
Storey SO	30	17	57
Washoe County:			
Washoe SO	444	390	88
Reno PD	1,658	1,184	71
Sparks PD	936	571	61
Pyramid Lake PD	0	0	0
UNR PD	0	0	0
Washoe Co. Schl PD	2	2	100
White Pine County:			
White Pine SO	17	17	100
TOTAL	22,971	12,487	54

*SO = sheriff's office.
**PD = police department.
Source: Data gathered from *Domestic Violence in Nevada*, a report published by the Nevada Office of the Attorney General and the Nevada Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, December 12, 2002.

Children in Substitute Care

Nevada

The Division of Child & Familiy Services (DCFS) coordinated substitute care for 4,642 children during the state fiscal year. The majority of the children were in DCFS custody (see table footnotes on page 68 for definition).

During calendar year 2002, children ages 3 and under were placed in substitute care for various reasons. The table on page 68 shows that they were most likely placed due to lack of supervision, minor physical injury, and physical neglect.

Two hundred thirty-nine children were adopted in 2002.

Significant Factors

Children are most likely placed in foster care because they have been physically or sexually abused by household members, or they have been severely neglected by their caretakers.[1]

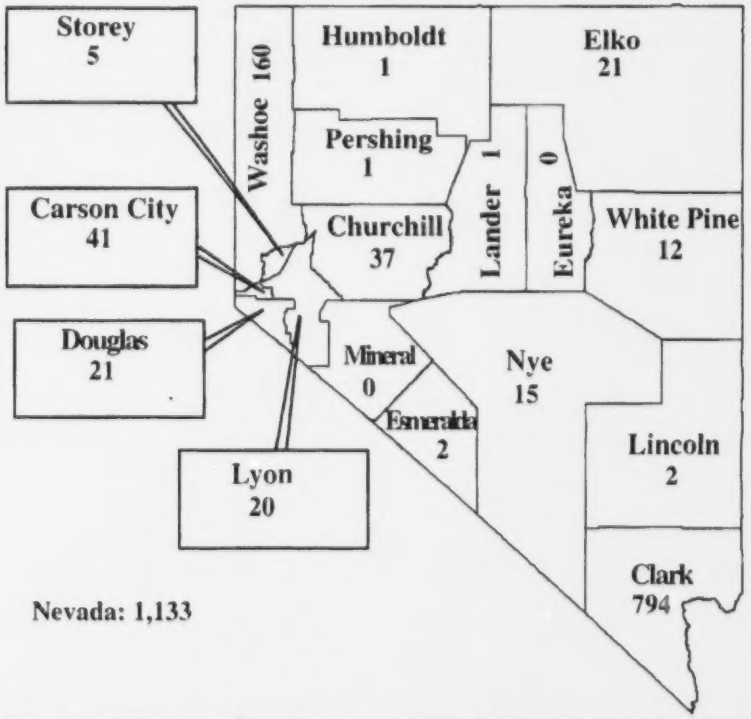
Children not only bring "heavy baggage" resulting from their neglect when they enter foster care, but they take it with them when they leave.[2] Helping children unload their baggage is a social concern.[3]

In 2000, 588,000 children in the U.S. were placed in foster care at a rate of 7.5 (number of children per 1,000 children under age 18). A historical view of the number of children in foster care reveals that the rate of children living in foster care in 1990 was 6.2.[4]

Definition

Substitute care involves temporary out-of-home placement for children found by a court to be in need of protection. Substitute care includes emergency shelter, foster family care (including placement with relatives), group-home care, therapuetic foster care, respite care, residential treatment care (both in-home and out-of-state), and independent living services (transitional services for youth who are age 18 at the time they leave foster care). These services may be provided through contract or community placement.[5]

Number of Children in DCFS Care Ages 5-17 by County: for October 2002



Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources. Division of Child and Family Services Program Evaluation & Data Unit, 2002.

Children in Substitute Care Continued

Types and Number of DCFS Substitute-Care Case Placements in Nevada: Calendar Year 2002 (Annual month-end average)

Type of Placement	*Number*
Total DCFS child-welfare caseload	4,642
DCFS child-welfare caseload in custody*	2,404
DCFS child welfare in custody by type	
Lower levels of care**	1,221
Higher levels of case***	745
DCFS child-welfare caseload noncustody****	2,238

*Custody = those children for which DCFS has legal custody and responsibility for child's well-being.
**Lower levels = family foster care.
***Higher levels = therapuedic foster care (medical institutions, etc).
****Noncustody = those children who either another agency or individual has legal custody of child (eg., juvenile probation, relative, parents, etc.), but DCFS is providing services.
Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services Program Evaluation & Data Unit, 2002.

Adoption in Nevada: Calendar Year 2002

Adoptions	*Number*
Eligible for subsidy	1,505
Receiving subsidy	1,228
Finalized adoptions	239

Sources: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services Program Evaluation & Data Unit, 2002.

Reasons Children Ages Three and under Are Placed in Substitute Care by Region: Calendar Year 2002

Substantiated 2002	*Clark*	*Washoe*	*Rest of State*	*Total*
Lack of supervision	409	51	29	489
Minor physical injury	380	0	0	380
Physical neglect	215	42	10	267
Threat of harm	0	81	17	98
Parent substance abuse	0	53	19	72
Sexual exploitation	62	4	0	66
Parent in jail	0	36	16	52
Emotional neglect	50	0	0	50
Educational neglect	46	0	1	47
Medical neglect	32	4	1	37
Abandoned	22	10	3	35
Filthy home	0	17	13	30
Lack necessity	0	18	7	25
Environment neglect	0	2	14	16
Parent alcohol abuse	0	5	5	10
Bruised	0	6	2	8
Beaten	0	4	1	5
Drug infant	0	2	2	4
Fail to thrive	0	2	1	3
Child's need not met	0	1	1	2
No access to medical	0	2	0	2
Parent in hospital	0	0	2	2
Parent mentally incompetent	0	2	0	2
Legal protection	0	1	0	1
Other	1,809	22	5	1,836

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child and Family Services Program Evaluation & Data Unit, 2002.

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Juvenile Justice

Juvenile Violent Crime

Nevada

The Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate in Nevada from 1999 to 2001 was 258.9 arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10 to 17. During this period, there were 1,705 juvenile violent crime arrests. The 1998 to 2000 rate was 273.8.

Of the 25,238 juvenile arrests in 2001, 588 were for violent crimes. The large majority of arrests were for nonviolent crimes. For example, 16.4 percent were curfew and loitering violations and 13.4 percent were larceny-theft. See table on page 71. In 2001, 67.8 percent of all state-wide juvenile arrests were males.[1]

Over 26,000 juveniles ages 8 to 17 were referred into the juvenile justice system during fiscal year 2001. Males were more than twice as likely to be referred as were females. See table on page 72.

Counties

Carson City and Washoe County had the highest Average Violent Crime Arrest Rate. Esmeralda, Eureka, Lincoln and Storey counties reported no juvenile crime arrests.

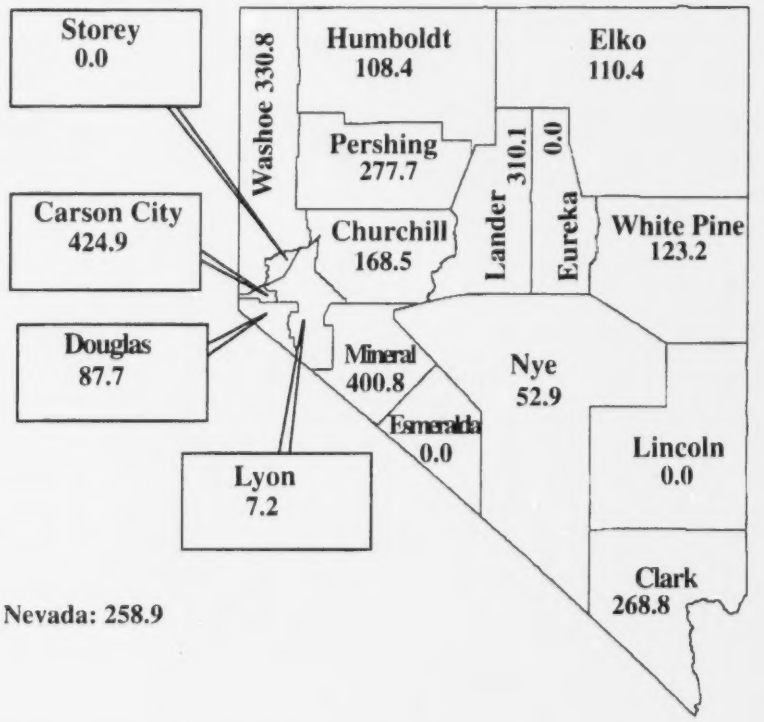
Significant Factors

Most violent behavior is learned. Some key risk factors for violence include peer pressure; need for attention or respect; feelings of low self-worth; feelings of isolation or rejection; early childhood neglect or abuse; and witnessing violence at home, in the community, or in the media.[2]

Definition

The Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate measures the rate at which youths (per 100,000) between the ages of 10 and 17 are arrested for violent crimes. In Nevada, juvenile violent crime includes murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Average Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate: 1999-2001
(Arrests per 100,000 youths ages 10-17)



Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety data, Nevada Highway Patrol Records and Identification Services, 1999-2001.

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Juvenile Violent Crime Continued

Gathered from previous work, The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control identified the following individual risk factors for youth violence:[3]

- history of early aggression
- beliefs supportive of violence
- engaging in antisocial behavior such as setting fires and animal cruelty
- use of alcohol and other drugs
- being male
- involvement in serious but not necessarily violent criminal behavior
- bullying other children or being the target of bullies.

Juvenile violent crime peaks between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., unlike adult violent crime which peaks at 11 p.m. However, when nonschool days are considered, the pattern of juvenile crime is similar to that of adult crime. Juveniles are more likely to commit crime later in the evening on a nonschool day.[4]

Aggravated assault and even homicide, involving juveniles as victims and/or offenders, often result from interactions over apparently trivial matters, and occur between individuals who know each other.[5]

Number of Referrals of Children and Youth Ages 8-17 into the Nevada Juvenile Justice System:* Fiscal Years 2000-2001

	2000		2001	
County	*Male*	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*
Clark County	9,950	4,216	9,742	4,199
Washoe County	4,362	2,478	4,796	2,662
Rest of State	2,726	1,377	3,079	1,562
NEVADA	17,038	8,071	17,617	8,423

*Includes all juveniles that came in contact with the juvenile justice system and does not just constitute arrests.
Source: Division of Child and Family Services, Juvenile Justice Programs Office, 2000-2001.

Juvenile Violent Crime Continued

Statewide Arrests by Offense and Age: 2001

Offense	*9 Years of Age and Less*	*10-12 Years of Age*	*13-14 Years of Age*	*15 Years of Age*	*16 Years of Age*	*17 Years of Age*	*Total*
Murder	0	0	0	0	4	7	11
Manslaughter by negligence	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Forcible rape	0	3	16	6	9	11	45
Robbery	1	9	27	43	63	66	209
Aggravated assault	9	33	85	66	62	77	332
Other assaults	67	318	711	528	469	537	2,630
Burglary	11	100	297	174	200	187	969
Larceny-theft	63	517	977	606	568	651	3,382
Motor-vehicle theft	1	9	97	132	143	124	506
Arson	13	29	57	19	20	5	143
Forgery and counterfeiting	0	0	3	6	3	7	19
Fraud	0	1	13	25	31	37	107
Embezzlement	0	1	1	2	11	41	56
Stolen property-buy, possess, receive	4	23	54	54	56	58	249
Vandalism	28	120	226	163	124	115	776
Weapons-carrying, possession	5	40	103	66	68	71	353
Prostitution and commercialized vice	0	0	9	11	18	37	75
Other sex offenses	8	33	51	24	17	30	163
Drug-abuse violations	3	63	340	301	327	433	1,467
Gambling	0	0	0	1	2	2	5
Offenses against family and children	5	3	9	14	7	11	49
Driving under the influence	2	1	4	3	17	46	73
Liquor laws	1	15	157	277	405	658	1,513
Drunkeness	1	0	12	13	21	31	78
Disorderly conduct	23	128	292	195	168	134	940
Vagrancy	0	4	5	7	4	10	30
All other offenses (except traffic)	28	480	1,520	1,239	1,222	1,034	5,523
Suspicion	0	0	2	4	1	5	12
Curfew and loitering law violations	3	90	626	768	1,160	1,482	4,129
Runaway	4	59	398	371	356	205	1,393
TOTAL	280	2,079	6,092	5,118	5,556	6,113	25,238

Source: Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety, *2001 Crime and Justice in Nevada.*

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Appendix

County Data: 2001

County	Nevada Demographics			Health Conditions and Health Care				Economic Well-Being		Education
	Population Ages 1-14	Population Ages 15-19	Female Population Ages 15-17	Total Births	Births <2,500 Grams	Births to Teens Ages 15-17	Births to Unmarried Teens Ages 15-17	Number of Children below Poverty Level Ages 0-17 1999	Children Who Live in a Family Where No Parent Is Employed in the Labor Market 2000	Teens Not in School and Not Working 2000
Carson City	9,954	3,370	1,038	744	67	40	28	1,629	1,189	208
Churchill County	5,619	1,981	605	343	29	14	12	739	360	68
Clark County	297,510	101,436	29,136	22,861	1,703	886	678	48,035	41,404	9,255
Douglas County	6,862	2,811	811	355	30	9	7	941	500	184
Elko County	10,774	4,100	1,122	638	42	17	8	1,356	725	312
Esmeralda County	142	71	14	7	0	0	0	18	19	2
Eureka County	322	108	41	20	2	0	0	53	33	11
Humboldt County	3,865	1,240	343	205	11	10	9	516	455	111
Lander County	1,483	484	158	82	4	7	3	249	175	5
Lincoln County	608	415	85	40	4	0	0	210	55	15
Lyon County	6,964	2,541	744	391	36	9	7	1,234	305	202
Mineral County	933	293	78	39	4	3	2	202	115	24
Nye County	5,760	2,367	678	332	23	17	14	967	681	118
Pershing County	1,179	530	168	72	0	7	6	233	156	34
Storey County	492	227	74	8	0	0	0	26	19	0
Washoe County	64,740	22,402	6,503	5,091	407	190	159	10,018	7,649	1,813
White Pine County	1,544	463	136	69	9	5	2	253	215	29
NEVADA	418,752	144,838	41,734	31,297	2,371	1,214	935	66,679	54,237	12,391

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics; Nevada Department of Education; Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety; Nevada Records and Identification Bureau.

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County Data: 2001 Continued

	Education					Child and Youth Safety/Welfare						Juvenile Justice	
County	*9th Grade Dropouts*	*10th Grade Dropouts*	*11th Grade Dropouts*	*12th Grade Dropouts*	*Number of Graduates*	*Infant Mortality (Less Than 1 Year Old)*	*Child Deaths Ages 1-14*	*Teen Violent Deaths Ages 15-19*	*Teen Suicide Deaths Ages 15-19*	*Teen Homicide Deaths Ages 15-19*	*Teen Accident Deaths Ages 15-19*	*Juvenile Violent Crime Ages 10-17*	*Population Ages 10-17*
Carson City	5	17	7	25	462	3	1	2	0	0	2	14	5,603
Churchill County	0	0	6	20	235	0	0	2	0	0	2	10	3,216
Clark County	655	207	785	1,801	9,571	137	66	39	5	17	16	374	163,157
Douglas County	3	4	12	24	420	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	4,827
Elko County	19	12	19	22	553	1	3	6	1	0	5	3	6,517
Esmeralda County	0	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	109
Eureka County	0	0	2	1	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	214
Humboldt County	11	6	6	14	218	0	1	3	0	0	3	0	2,002
Lander County	1	4	2	2	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	867
Lincoln County	0	2	0	0	85	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	498
Lyon County	7	10	9	9	330	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	4,275
Mineral County	0	1	2	6	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	573
Nye County	37	20	34	20	268	5	1	3	1	0	2	4	3,892
Pershing County	1	0	5	1	44	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	824
Storey County	12	3	3	5	27	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	423
Washoe County	105	27	212	305	2,614	28	20	11	2	3	6	167	36,405
White Pine County	18	10	19	8	107	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	889
NEVADA	874	323	1,123	2,263	15,128	177	96	68*	9	20	38	588	234,290

*Total includes one unclassified death.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics; Nevada Department of Education; Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety; Nevada Records and Identification Bureau.

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TerraNova National Percentile Ranks for Nevada Students
Grades 4, 8, and 10 by School District: Fall 2000

School District	Grade	Reading Composite	Language Composite	Mathematics Composite	Science
Nevada State Summary	4	50	57	57	47
Nevada State Summary	8	51	52	52	48
Nevada State Summary	10	56	57	60	58
Carson City					
Carson City Summary	4	53	56	52	54
Carson City Summary	8	58	55	60	58
Carson City Summary	10	63	56	62	67
Churchill					
Churchill Summary	4	48	55	54	52
Churchill Summary	8	58	54	52	59
Churchill Summary	10	59	58	59	62
Clark					
Clark Summary	4	49	57	59	44
Clark Summary	8	49	51	51	45
Clark Summary	10	53	56	58	53
Douglas					
Douglas Summary	4	52	59	52	53
Douglas Summary	8	63	64	70	62
Douglas Summary	10	69	66	72	69
Elko					
Elko Summary	4	52	55	49	53
Elko Summary	8	53	52	50	56
Elko Summary	10	56	60	57	59
Esmeralda					
Esmeralda Summary	4	29	29	29	30
Esmeralda Summary	8	*	*	*	*
Eureka					
Eureka Summary	4	52	61	58	56
Eureka Summary	8	65	56	51	61
Eureka Summary	10	82	78	82	72
Humboldt					
Humboldt Summary	4	51	55	56	52
Humboldt Summary	8	58	54	53	61
Humboldt Summary	10	55	54	58	63

School District	Grade	Reading Composite	Language Composite	Mathematics Composite	Science
Lander					
Lander Summary	4	55	58	51	57
Lander Summary	8	59	61	60	60
Lander Summary	10	59	62	64	66
Lincoln					
Lincoln Summary	4	49	45	52	53
Lincoln Summary	8	39	42	44	51
Lincoln Summary	10	55	52	56	56
Lyon					
Lyon Summary	4	47	48	55	49
Lyon Summary	8	51	49	55	51
Lyon Summary	10	55	52	53	55
Mineral					
Mineral Summary	4	46	50	63	49
Mineral Summary	8	43	42	42	45
Mineral Summary	10	50	51	41	55
Nye					
Nye Summary	4	43	45	49	46
Nye Summary	8	46	45	47	47
Nye Summary	10	54	51	49	57
Pershing					
Pershing Summary	4	48	44	45	50
Pershing Summary	8	58	61	48	58
Pershing Summary	10	55	57	44	58
Storey					
Storey Summary	4	72	72	64	70
Storey Summary	8	71	67	67	77
Storey Summary	10	69	60	58	77
Washoe					
Washoe Summary	4	54	59	54	55
Washoe Summary	8	57	57	51	56
Washoe Summary	10	67	65	68	69
White Pine					
White Pine Summary	4	42	43	44	42
White Pine Summary	8	46	47	53	54
White Pine Summary	10	57	48	50	63

*Fewer than 10 students tested.
Source: Nevada Department of Education.

Nevada High School Performance on ACT and SAT by County: 2000-2001

School District	*SAT (Verbal)*	*SAT (Math)*	*ACT (Composite)*
Carson City	520	522	22.0
Churchill	512	498	22.0
Clark	502	517	21.4
Douglas	513	523	22.3
Elko	554	556	20.7
Esmeralda	NA	NA	NA
Eureka	511	498	23.8
Humboldt	509	511	21.2
Lander	460	530	18.8
Lincoln	NA	NA	19.5
Lyon	513	490	21.4
Mineral	548	544	20.3
Nye	477	465	20.0
Pershing	520	496	20.3
Storey	440	470	21.0
Washoe	530	533	22.3
White Pine	531	545	17.1
NEVADA	509	515	21.3
UNITED STATES	505	514	21.0

Source: Nevada Department of Education and U.S. Department of Education, 2000-2001.
Cited in: Nevada Commission on Economic Development, County Demographics Web site, online at: <http://www.expand2nevada.com/newsite/regions/index.html> as of February 11, 2003.

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Notes

Child Care

Useful descriptions for Nevada child-care facilities are defined by law and may be found in *Services for Facilities for Care of Children* NAC-432A.[1]

Accommodation facility: *a facility which 1. By a business that is licensed to conduct a business other than the provision of care to children; and 2. As an auxilary service provided for the customers of the primary business.* (NAC 432A.012)
Child-care center: *any facility in which the licensee regularly provides day or night care for more than 12 children.* (NAC 432A.050)
Child-care institution: *a facility in which the licensee provides care during the day and night and provides developmental guidance to 16 or more children who do not routinely return to the homes of their parents or guardians.* (NAC 432A.070)
Family home: *any facility in which the licensee regularly provides care without the presence of parents, for at least five and not more than six children.* (NAC 432A.100)
Group home: *any facility in which the licensee regularly provides care for no less than seven and no more than twelve children.* (NAC 432A.110)
Nursery for infants and toddlers: *a child care facility in which the licensee provides care for five or more children who are under 2 years of age.* (NAC 432A.145)
Preschool: *a facility in which the licensee has established specific goals to enhance each child's cognitive, social, emotional, physical and creative development.* (NAC 432A.160)
Special-needs facility: *a child care facility providing care to children with special needs in which those children comprise 40 percent or more of the total number of children for whom the facility is licensed to provide care.* (NAC 432A.165)
On-site child-care facility: *an establishment that . . . (2) provides care to the children of employees of a business at the place of employment; (3) provides care on a temporary or permanent basis, during the day or overnight, to five or more children who are under the age of 18 years and who are not related within the third degree of consanguinity or affinity to an owner or manager of the business; and (4) is owned, operated, subsidized, managed, contracted for or staffed by the business.* (NRS 432A.0275)

Education

TerraNova Examination

As stipulated in Nevada Revised Statue (NRS 395.015), students in grades four, eight, and ten attending Nevada public schools must be assessed using a norm-referenced examination. Students must be assessed for achievement in reading, language, mathematics, and science. The TerraNova examination (CTB/McGraw-Hill) is currently used in the state of Nevada to meet this need and is administered to students during the fall of the academic year.

A norm-referenced examination allows a comparison of student performance against a nationally representative sample of students (a norm group). Student performance can be scored or characterized in a variety of ways. Within this summary, a description of performance as measured by national percentile scores will be provided. National percentile scores are fairly easy to interpret. For example, a national percentile score of 50 is equivalent to performance at the national average. In other words, a student with a score of 50 in reading has scored higher than 50 percent of the students making up the national norm group sample.[2]

High School Proficiency Examination

The key features of the High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE) are:
In addition to meeting the minimum credit requirements for graduation from high school, Nevada students must also pass each portion of the High School Proficiency Examination (HSPE). Although most recently based on the 1994 Nevada Course of Study, students in the graduating class of 2003 are the first to be tested on examinations aligned with the 1998 Nevada State Content Standards. The HSPE currently covers the subject areas of reading, mathematics, and writing. Beginning with the graduating class of 2005, students will also be required to pass an examination in science in order to receive a standard high school diploma. Students are provided a minimum of five opportunities to pass the examination before their anticipated graduation from high school.[3]

Passing scores for the examination are set by the State Board of Education. Assembly Bill 523 of the 1997 Legislative Session directed the State Board of Education to set a "moderate" passing score for the first class to take the new examination (Class of 1999) and to increase the score to a higher level for students to whom the examination is administered during subsequent years.[4]

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Resources

Health Conditions and Health Care

American Academy of Pediatrics
http://www.aap.org

American Psychological Association
http://www.apa.org

Centers for Disease Control
http://www.cdc.gov

Covering Kids Initiative
http://www.coveringkids.org

Healthy People Initiative
http://web.health.gov/healthypeople

National Center for Health Statistics
http://www.cdc.gov/nchs

National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health
http://www.ncemch.org

National Health Law Program, Inc.
http://healthlaw.org

National Institutes of Health
http://www.nih.gov

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
http://www.teenpregnancy.org

Medicaid and Nevada Check Up
1100 E. William Street
Carson City, NV 89710
(775) 684-3676

Nevada Dental Association
http://www.nvda.org

Nevada Public Health Foundation
Teen Pregnancy Prevention
http://www.nphf.org/programs.htm

Nevada Health Division
505 E. King Street, Room 201
Carson City, NV 89701-4797
(775) 684-4200
http://www.state.nv.us/health

Economic Well-Being

Center for the Child Care Workforce
733 15th Street, NW Suite 1037
Washington, DC 20005-2112
(202) 737-7700
http://www.ccw.org/home

Food Stamp Program: Food and Nutrition Services
http://www.fns.usda.gov/fsp

National Center for Children in Poverty
http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/index.html

National Child Care Association
1016 Rosser Street
Conyers, GA 30012
(800) 543-7161
http://www.nccanet.org

National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care
http://nrc.uchsc.edu

National School Lunch Program: Food and Nutrition
http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/lunch

Bureau of Services for Child Care
Division of Child and Family Services
711 East 5th Street
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 684-4400
http://dcfs.state.nv.us/page23.html

School Health, Safety, & Nutrition Team
Nevada Department of Education
700 East Fifth Street
Carson City, NV 89701-5096
(775) 687-9150
http://www.nde.state.us/hlthsaf/index.html

Nevada Welfare Division
2527 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89710
(775) 684-0500
http://welfare.state.nv.us

TANF: Office of Family Assistance
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/ofa
Carson City, NV 89701-5096
(775) 684-0500

Education and Achievement

Head Start Bureau
Administration on Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
330 C. Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20447
(202) 205-8572
http://www2.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/hsb/index.htm?

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
1509 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-1426
(202) 232-8777
http://www.naeyc.org/naeyc

National Center for Education Statistics
http://www.nces.ed.gov/index.html

National Dropout Prevention Center
College of Health, Education, and Human Development
Clemson University
209 Martin Street, Clemson, South Carolina 29631-1555
(864) 656-2599
http://www.dropoutprevention.org

National Education Association
http://www.nea.org

U.S. Department of Education
http://www.ed.gov

Nevada Department of Education
700 East Fifth Street
Carson City, NV 89701-5096
(775) 687-9200
http://www.nde.state.nv.us

Office of Community Connections
Nevada Head Start-State Collaboration Office
Early Intervention Services/State of Nevada DHS
3987 South McCarran Blvd.
Reno, NV 89502
(775) 688-2284
http://www.nvcommunityconnections.com

Nevada KIDS COUNT
Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada Las Vegas
http://kidscount.unlv.edu

Resources Continued

Child and Youth Safety/Welfare

Center for the Prevention of School Violence
http://www.ncsu.edu/cpsv

Child Welfare League of America
http://www.cwla.org

National CASA Association (Court Appointed Special Advocates)
http://www.nationalcasa.org

National School Safety Center
http://www.nssc1.org

Prevent Child Abuse America
http://www.preventchildabuse.org

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence
(800) 230-1955

Nevada Division of Child & Family Services
711 E. Fifth Street
Carson City, NV 89710
(775) 684-4400
http://dcfs.state.nv.us

Juvenile Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation - Uniform Crime Reports
http://www.fbi.gov

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org

Juvenile Justice Programs Office
400 West King Street Room 230
Carson City, NV 89701-3092
(775) 687-3982

Youth Development

National Youth Development Information Center (NYDIC)
http://www.nydic.org

Search Institute
http://www.search-institute.org

youthlink.org
http://www.youthlink.org

Multi-Issue

Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/acyf

American Public Human Services Association
http://www.aphsa.org

The Annie E. Casey Foundation
http://www.aecf.org

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
http://www.cbpp.org

Children, Youth, and Families Education and Research Network (CYFERnet)
http://www.cyfernet.org

Children's Defense Fund
http://www.childrensdefense.org

Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics
http://www.childstats.gov

Forum on Child and Family Statistics
http://childstats.gov

I Am Your Child
http://www.iamyourchild.org

National Association of Child Advocates
http://www.childadvocacy.org

National Association of Counties
http://www.naco.org

Population Reference Bureau (PRB)
http://www.prb.org

The Future of Children
http://www.futureofchildren.org

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
http://www.unce.unr.edu

The Urban Institute
http://www.urban.org

United Way of America
http://national.unitedway.org

U.S. Department of Education, Safe, and Drug Free Schools
http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/SDFS

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
http://www.hhs.gov

Nevada Attorney General
Carson City Office
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701-4717
(775) 684-1100

Nevada's Official Web Site
http://www.nv.gov/

Selected programs recommended for improvement of student achievement by the Nevada Legislative Committee on Education

Accelerated Math (AM) (Grades 1-12)

Accelerated Reader (AR) (Grades K-12)

Brainchild (BC) (Grades 1-12)

Bridges (BR) (Grades K-12)

California Early & Extended Literacy Learning (CELL) (Grades K-6)

Computer Curriculum Corporation (CCC) (Grades K-8)

Fast Forward (FF) (Grades K-12)

Full Option Science System (FOSS) (Grades K-8)

Lexia Learning System (LL) (Grades K-12)

Mathwings (MW) (Grades 1-5)

Read 180 (R180) (Grades 4-12)

Reading Counts (RC) (Grades 1-12)

Saxon Math (SM) (Grades K-12)

Science and Technology (ST) (Grades 1-8)

Success for All/Roots and Wings (SFA) (Grades K-6)

Thinking Maps (TM) (Grades K-12)

Source: Legislative Committee on Education, January 9, 2002, *Final List of Effective Remedial Programs.*

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Nevada KIDS COUNT Partners

The University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE) is an educational outreach unit of the University of Nevada, Reno. UNCE provides educational programs throughout the state by conducting needs assessments, designing and delivering educational programs, and conducting evaluation studies. Known for its 4-H youth work, UNCE also offers a number of award-winning programs for vulnerable children and families.

The Nevada Title IV-D, Family Preservation and Family Support Steering Committee, a statewide committee established as a result of federal legislation, has inclusive geographical and organizational representation. The Title IV-B Committee developed and guided the implementation of the Nevada Title IV-B *Family Preservation and Family Support Five-Year Plan* that was submitted to the United States Department of Health and Human Services in 1995, with annual updates thereafter.

The Nevada KIDS COUNT Advisory Council, formally established in 1995, is a dedicated, 28-member council that includes statewide representation from a wide range of diverse organizations working with children or families in Nevada. This broad-based representation encompasses state government, county governments, public and Nevada agencies, Nevada KIDS COUNT partners, data providers, and the business community.

Nevada KIDS COUNT
Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada Las Vegas
http://kidscount.unlv.edu

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